WORLD SOCCER

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FEBRUARY 1967

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THE greatest soccer adventure ever starts in America on April 16. On that day the land of high-powered enterprise will receive its first arterial injection of professional football — the drug that has the rest of the world in its compulsive grip.

As you read this my family and I will be on our way to the United States where I will settle into my job as general-manager of the Baltimore club, one of the ten teams who will kick off the first major professional football league in North America.

This venture will succeed. I would not be going if I was not sure of it. Neither would the administrators, coaches and players who are even now flocking to the States from all parts of the world.

It is a massive undertaking. Not only because of the millions of dollars involved, not only because the giant CBS television network has a 10 million dollar contract to film the game of the week, but because the men behind it are determined to succeed.

I have talked to many players and coaches who have, like myself, sold up and committed themselves completely to this adventure.

The common feeling is one of urgency and excitement. This is not like Australian or South African football where foreign players go to graze.

Every man is committed to doing a job, to act as a soccer missionary in this challenging country, to make Americans aware of the true majesty of this great game.

Regrettably we go as outlaws. FIFA have made us so.

This devastating fact was made finally clear on the day Sir Stanley Rous failed to become chairman of the Football Association.

It is ironic that one day should contain such disappointment both for him and for us. Yet this does not stop me from stating that Sir Stanley must take the vast part of the blame for FIFA not giving official recognition to the National Professional Soccer League.

During the past months Phil Woosnam, Alan Rogers and myself have had many hours of talks with Sir Stanley. Alan Rogers, an FA coach whose last job was a FIFA assignment in Africa, accepted his new post in America with Sir Stanley's full blessing.

Yet, after giving all of us the firm impression that he was sympathetic to our cause, Sir Stanley has not helped us towards the recognition we sought.

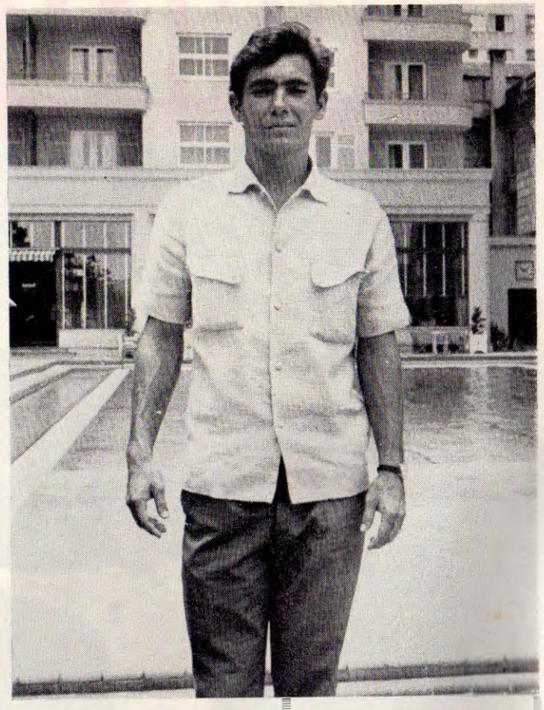
FIFA instead will recognise only the North American Soccer League who will not be ready to start operations until 1968.

This snub comes despite our impeccable behaviour in gathering together our players. No player was approached without permission of his club, in some cases we have paid transfer fees to clubs.

There is one National team playing in a FIFA-sponsored competition wearing boots with which I personally supplied them in gratitude for their assistance and co-operation.

Sir Stanley's change of heart and mind is so hard to understand. I cannot believe that a man with his record of achievement could miss such a chance to make the growth of soccer in the United States his final and greatest act.

Such a staunch FIFA supporter as Sir George Graham, now the executive secretary of our new league, is moved to say: "The League were hoping to commence operations with the blessing of FIFA but seemingly they see no need to help in the development of the game in the USA and prefer "assurances" from the USSFA—in existence for 54 years—that all is well under their control. So it is that they have taken unto themselves to say 'there will be only one professional league in the whole of America'."



Nelio Dos Santos of Flamengo and Brazil steps out of an hotel on Rio's Copacabana Beach to join the Americans. He has signed for Baltimore of the National Professional Soccer League. (O.)

The saddest fact for me is that my league has now decided to accept the "outlaw" label that FIFA have given us.

I am sure that not all clubs will take the opportunities provided by being outlawed.

But the great threat remains—that while such a powerful, wealthy and determined body is kept outside FIFA there is nothing to stop them, but their own honour, from stealing any player they want from the rest of the world.

Imagine, if you dare, the blow to English football if its top stars were to be offered the unlimited cash and opportunity the Americans are able to provide. And this, remember, without the clubs being able to ask a penny in transfer fees.

I content myself with the belief that one day FIFA must recognise us. We shall make a success over there, not only financially. In ten years we will have the youth of America completely won over to football. When that happens no prize in the world will be safe from them.

My directive from the men who control Baltimore is to build their club into one fit to equal any in the world. Coach Doug Millward and I have already travelled thousands of miles to sign foreign players.

From England the league has taken some of the most serious younger coaches in the game. Men like Phil Woosnam and Freddie Goodwin have dedicated themselves to this dream. They have joined forces with footballing brains like Dr. O. Bradovic who for 20 years has been general-manager of Red Star Belgrade.

Despite the jibes about the standard of play we will achieve I can assure you that we have a lot of young and promising players who will not only play the game but melt into the American way of life, into the schools and youth clubs.

The gospel of soccer is about to be spread right into the heart of America. The response will be a tumult of sporting development the whole world will feel.

THE INTERNATIONAL MAGAZINE

World Soccer

SUTHERLAND HOUSE - 5-6 ARGYLL STREET
LONDON, W.1., ENGLAND GER 3231

Editor:
JACK ROLLIN

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FRONT COVER PICTURE

Billy McCullough (6) of Northern Ireland tackles England's Geoff Hurst who appeals for a penalty; Martin Peters also appeals while Sammy Todd (left) and goalkeeper Pat Jennings watch the ball! (M.P.I.)

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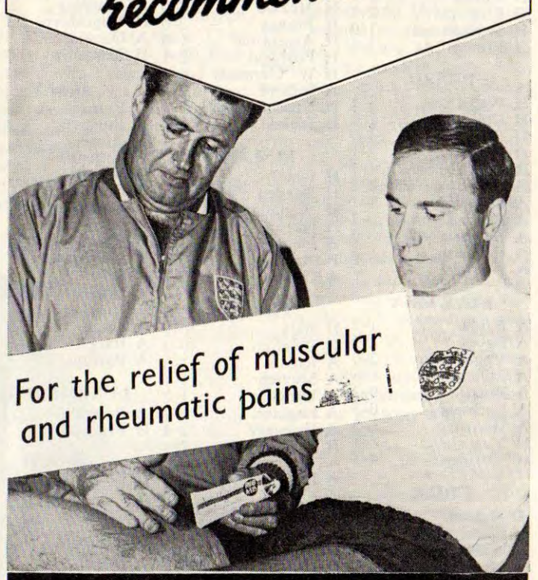
Harold Shepherdson trainer of Victorious English World Cup team uses and recommends—



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H England 0–1
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A Rumania 3–4

INTERNATIONAL MERIT TABLE & PERCENTAGE SUCCESS

	P.	W.	D.	L.	Goals F.	Goals A.	Percentage Success
1. East Germany	**6**	**5**	**1**	**0**	**21**	**5**	**91.66**
2. England	17	14	3	0	38	9	91.17
3. Portugal	12	10	0	2	30	11	83.33
4. West Germany	14	11	1	2	33	9	82.14
5. Italy	10	7	1	2	21	4	75
6. Brazil	11	7	2	2	22	14	72.72
7. Russia	16	9	3	4	25	19	65.62
8. Hungary	11	6	2	3	27	16	63.63
9. Argentina	7	3	2	2	7	6	57.14
10. Sweden	9	4	2	3	17	15	55.55
11. Holland	7	3	1	3	14	11	50
12. Spain	6	2	2	2	7	6	50
13. Belgium	6	3	0	3	9	8	50
14. Mexico	9	3	3	3	12	13	50
15. Rumania	8	4	0	4	12	15	50
16. Uruguay	9	3	3	3	8	12	50
17. Finland	7	2	2	3	5	10	42.85
18. Eire	6	2	1	3	5	10	41.66
19. Ireland	5	2	0	3	9	8	40
20. Bulgaria	9	3	1	5	17	21	38.88
21. Yugoslavia	9	3	1	5	9	16	38.88
22. North Korea	4	1	1	2	5	9	37.5
23. Austria	7	2	1	4	5	10	35.71
24. France	10	2	3	5	13	18	35.0
25. Czechoslovakia	6	1	2	3	6	8	33.33
26. Turkey	4	1	1	2	3	4	33.33
27. Scotland	6	1	2	3	7	11	33.33
28. Poland	10	1	4	5	13	15	30
29. Chile	10	2	2	6	11	15	30
30. Norway	7	1	1	5	7	22	21.5
31. Israel	5	1	0	4	7	10	20
32. Denmark	11	1	1	9	7	23	13.63
33. Switzerland	8	0	2	6	7	20	12.5
34. Wales	5	0	1	4	4	15	10

PORTUGAL
H Norway 4–0
A Scotland 1–0
A Denmark 3–1
H Uruguay 3–0
H Rumania 1–0
A Hungary 3–1
A Bulgaria 3–0
A Brazil 3–1
A N. Korea 5–3
A England 1–2
A Russia 2–1
H Sweden 1–2

RUMANIA
H Uruguay 1–0
A W. Germany . 0–1
A Portugal 0–1
A E. Germany . 0–2
H Switzerland ... 4–2
H Poland 4–3
A Italy 1–3
A Israel 2–1

RUSSIA
A Switzerland ... 2–2
A Austria 1–0
A Czechoslovakia 2–1
A Belgium 1–0
H France 3–3
A Denmark 2–1
A North Korea . 3–0
A Italy 1–0
A Chile 2–1
A Hungary 2–1
A W. Germany . 1–2
A Portugal 1–2
A Yugoslavia ... 2–1
H Turkey 0–2
H E. Germany . 2–2
A Italy 0–1

SCOTLAND
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H Holland 0–3
H Portugal 0–1
H Brazil 1–1
A Wales 1–1
H Ireland 2–1

SPAIN
H Uruguay 1–1
A Argentina 1–2
A Switzerland ... 2–1
A W. Germany . 1–2
A Eire 0–0
H Eire 2–0

SWEDEN
A E. Germany . 1–4
A Poland 1–1
A Finland 0–1
H Yugoslavia ... 1–1
H Brazil 2–3
A Norway 4–2
H Austria 4–1
H Denmark 2–1
A Portugal 2–1

SWITZERLAND
H Russia 2–2
A Hungary 1–3
H Mexico 1–1
A W. Germany . 0–5
A Spain 1–2
A Argentina 0–2
A Belgium 0–1
A Rumania 2–4

TURKEY
A Denmark 0–0
H W. Germany . 0–2
A Russia 2–0
A Eire 1–2

URUGUAY
H Paraguay 3–1
A Israel 2–1
A Rumania 0–1
A Spain 1–1
A Portugal 0–3
A England 0–0
A France 2–1
A Mexico 0–0
A W. Germany . 0–4

WALES
H Ireland 1–4
A Brazil 1–3
A Chile 0–2
H Scotland 1–1
A England 1–5

YUGOSLAVIA
A England 0–2
H Hungary 2–0
H Bulgaria 0–2
A W. Germany . 0–2
A Sweden 1–1
H Russia 1–2
A Israel 3–1
H Czechoslovakia 1–0
A Bulgaria 1–6

REVIEW OF THE 1966 SEASON — AS SEEN BY ERIC BATTY

EAST GERMANS JUST PIP ENGLAND—YET . . .

A GREAT many people still insist that "it's goals that count" and that league tables don't lie. Figures do not tell even a fraction of the story behind a game, yet while I would prefer a system which awards points for the manner in which teams play, man has yet to evolve a workable system that would ensure that the best team always wins.

Looking at the table of results for 1966, the significant feature is clearly the unexpectedly high position of East Germany who pip England for top place.

As it has always been, the table was compiled on the basis of percentage success. Because many countries play differing numbers of matches, points for victories and draws would favour those who played most frequently. Some teams play the majority of their games at home while others play a majority away, and complicating the entire business still further is the variable strengths of the opposition encountered.

Percentage success has always seemed to me the only fair basis. Taking the number of "points" won compared with the number of points played for and converting this ratio into a percentage we can allot every country its place. Having done this, we must now consider the result, and by making adjustments according to our personal assessment of the opposition met, etc., we can get something like a realistic assessment of the international standing of each country.

First it must be stressed that the East Germans are by no means the best in the world and without doubt they should be edged down. How far from the top they should be placed is open to argument, for my own feeling is "not too far".

That England, Portugal and West Germany should be highly placed is no surprise in a year when they reached the later stages in the World Cup, though Russia, who reached the semi-finals, slipped up badly in the autumn.

Considering Italy's high ranking it still seems inconceivable that they should have flopped so badly in the World Cup. Their goals tally of 21 to 4 speaks for itself, for the figures include the two 1-0 defeats against North Korea and Russia.

Apart from England, the game in the British Isles would seem to be in very poor health, Eire in 18th place and Ireland 19th seem positively blooming by comparison with Scotland and Wales. The Scots, who by now must be realising that there is something seriously wrong with their game at international level, played five of their six games in Glasgow, while their other match was in Cardiff. To register only one victory in these circumstances is quite exceptional, and it is to their selection committee that the Scots should look to put things right.

Surveying the results and the table and recalling the events of 1966 it becomes even clearer that at the present time the standard of play in the international arena is lower than ever before. This has been developing for some time, for in every corner of the world club interests are put a great deal higher in the scale of priorities than the needs of the national team. This is true to a lesser degree in Eastern Europe, but still true even there. Comparing Internazionale with Italy, Penarol with Uruguay, and Real Madrid with Spain it is clear that outstanding club players either cannot or will not blend their talents with others in the national side.

In Europe I can commend only Hungary to those who would understand and admire real football. With their traditional insistence on technical skill and overall understanding of the game, the Hungarians stand out as the great hope for the future. Elsewhere the game is fast and direct with the players' physical attributes too heavily emphasised.

Aftermath of that wonderful second goal scored by the Hungarians against Brazil in the World Cup. You can just see the scorer, number 10 Farkas, being submerged by overjoyed team-mates. (M.P.I.)

In South America, the supremacy of Brazil has now passed to Argentina and Uruguay, who have learned to ally their outstanding technical ability to the needs of the modern game with surprising speed. Given better discipline and in the case of Uruguay, one or two players with real penetration, they will both do extremely well in the future. Surprisingly, and this is the final proof that figures cannot reveal all, both Argentina and Uruguay fared poorly in 1966 by comparison with Brazil.

For the future, however, we must look more and more towards the still under-developed football countries. In Africa and Asia the game is growing steadily and the unfancied North Koreans emphasised by their World Cup showing what I have long suspected.

At the end of the year North Korea carried off the GANEFO soccer championship though their results in this competition are not included in the table. FIFA refuses to recognise the GANEFO series in which the Koreans beat China 2-1 in the "final" but even without the benefit of five more victories, the Koreans still command a very healthy position in world football.

Finally a word about England, for whom 1966 appears to have been a truly sensational year. Certainly the results achieved are the best ever, but there has grown up in England the idea that her prestige has been enhanced by the winning of the World Cup. This simply is not true, for while England teams have always been popular visitors abroad and will remain so, there are very few people abroad who regard England as the best in the world. England's success has been accepted, but no one is doffing their cap, and long after the 1966 winners have been forgotten foreigners will remember the goal created by Albert Bene and Farkas in that memorable match between Hungary and Brazil.

INTERNATIONAL POST-MORTEM

Each month on these pages we go back over the major internationals played since the last issue. The particular games featured are indicated at the head of the article for quick reference.

by GORDON JEFFERY

Choosing the best

A QUIET ending to 1966—England's year by, I am sure, everyone's reckoning. As I write, issues of sports papers that feature International ratings for each year are beginning to come in. The first two I have seen are *France-Football's* and the Polish *Przeglad Sportowy*—both have no doubts about the top European country for 1966. And both, obviously and rightly influenced by the World Cup results, place West Germany and Portugal next—*France-Football* bracket them together but *Przeglad Sportowy*, with a reasonable caution after Portugal's recent home defeat by the Swedes, put West Germany second and Portugal third.

France-Football leave the Soviet Union in their World Cup place of fourth but, again because they have taken more account of post-World Cup results, the Poles drop the Soviet Union to fifth place and introduce Hungary at No. 4. *France-Football* have Hungary in level fifth place with Italy—sixth in the Polish rankings. Italy disappointed in the World Cup with their defeat by North Korea destined to rank always as one of the major upsets of International football, but have won both their matches played since then—against the Soviet Union and, in the period under review this month, against Rumania in the European Football Championship.

Both these matches were played in Italy and I would be a little hesitant myself about putting Italy in the Top Six when their 1966 away victories were limited to those against a Copenhagen Selection in Denmark (which *France-Football* includes in their results but which is correctly excluded by the Poles) and against Chile in neutral Sunderland. However, I am not intending to encroach into the annual ranking business on my own account and can be content to report that these two comprehensive reviews do rank Italy in the Top Six.

What is interesting—and perhaps a reflection on what everyone knows to be true but cannot overcome—is that countries who failed to qualify for places in the World Cup final stages feature in the next three or four places in both papers' rankings. Occupying seventh place in both lists is East Germany with a playing record that was, on a percentage basis, fractionally better even than England's. (England with 14 wins and three draws in 17 matches had a success mark of 91.2%: East Germany with five wins and one draw in six matches were on 91.7%.)

THE MONTH'S GAMES

Nov.	26:	*Italy 3 Rumania 1*	*EFC Naples*
,,	27:	*Luxembourg 0 France 3*	*EFC Luxembourg*
,,	30:	*Chile 5 Colombia 2*	*Santiago*
,,	30:	*Netherlands 2 Denmark 0*	*EFC Rotterdam*
Dec.	3:	*Cyprus 1 Rumania 5*	*EFC Nicosia*
,,	3:	*Israel 0 Poland 0*	*Tel Aviv*
,,	7:	*Spain 2 Republic of Ireland 0*	*EFC Valencia*
,,	7:	*Israel 1 Rumania 2*	*Tel Aviv*

France-Football then have Rumania and Sweden sharing eighth place: *Przeglad Sportowy* have Czechoslovakia eighth (aided by their November draw at Wembley and win in Amsterdam), Rumania ninth and Sweden tenth. *France-Football* have three countries sharing tenth place: two of them World Cup finalists, Bulgaria and Spain, and the Netherlands. Oddly, with regard being played to the Czechs' draw against England and their win over the Dutch in Amsterdam, they leave Czechoslovakia sharing 13th place with Belgium and Yugoslavia—and the latter only share 20th place in the Polish reckoning.

Many readers may be as fascinated as I have been in comparing the agreement and the obvious disagreement of experts. Here are the two lists in full:

	France-Football	Przeglad Sportowy
1.	England	England
2.	West Germany, Portugal	West Germany
3.		Portugal
4.	U.S.S.R.	Hungary
5.	Hungary, Italy	U.S.S.R.
6.		Italy
7.	E. Germany	E. Germany
8.	Rumania, Sweden	Czechoslovakia
9.		Rumania
10.	Bulgaria, Spain, Netherlands	Sweden
11.		Spain
12.		Austria
13.	Belgium, Yuglslavia, Czecho'vakia	Netherlands
14.		Scotland
15.		Belgium
16.	Austria, Rep. of Ire., France, Poland	Rep. of Ireland
17.		N. Ireland
18.		Bulgaria
19		France
20.	Scotland, N. Ireland	Poland, Yugoslavia
22.	Switzerland	Turkey
23.	Finland, Norway	Finland
24.		Wales
25.	Denmark, Wales	Norway
26.		Switzerland
27.		Denmark
28.		Greece
29.		Luxembourg

Non-ranking: Cyprus, Greece, Luxembourg, Turkey — Cyprus, Albania, Iceland, Malta

The late November and December matches themselves were mainly of interest in respect of the progress made in four of the eight European Football Championship groups. (I briefly comment on the Chile-Colombia match in the S. American pages of this issue.) The composition of the Qualifying Groups are worth looking at anew with an eye towards the actual 1966 rankings. Here are the results and tables to-date together with the *France-Football* and *Przeglad Sportowy* rankings shown in parenthesis—in that order.

GROUP ONE

Rep. of Ireland 0 Spain 0
Rep. of Ireland 2 Turkey 1
Spain 2 Rep. of Ireland 0

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Spain (10-11)	2	1	1	0	2	0	3
Rep. of Ire. (16-16)	3	1	1	1	2	3	3
Turkey (NR—22)	1	0	0	1	1	2	0

GROUP TWO

Bulgaria 4 Norway 2
Portugal 1 Sweden 2

Bulgaria (10-18)	1	1	0	0	4	2	2
Sweden (8-10)	1	1	0	0	2	1	2
Norway (23-25)	1	0	0	1	2	4	0
Portugal (2-3)	1	0	0	1	1	2	0

GROUP THREE

Finland 0 Austria 0
Greece 2 Finland 1

Greece (NR-28)	1	1	0	0	2	1	2
Austria (16-12)	1	0	1	0	0	0	1
Finland (23-23)	2	0	1	1	1	2	1
U.S.S.R. (4-5)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

GROUP FOUR

Albania (NR-NR)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
W. Germany (2-2)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Yugoslavia (13-20)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

GROUP FIVE

Netherlands 2 Hungary 2
Hungary 6 Denmark 0
Netherlands 2 Denmark 0

Hungary (5-4)	2	1	1	0	8	2	3
Netherlands (10-13)	2	1	1	0	4	2	3
Denmark (25-27)	2	0	0	2	0	8	0

GROUP SIX

Rumania 4 Switzerland 2
Italy 3 Rumania 1
Cyprus 1 Rumania 5

Rumania (8-9)	3	2	0	1	10	6	4
Italy (5-6)	1	1	0	0	3	1	2
Switzerland (22-26)	1	0	0	1	2	4	0
Cyprus (NR-NR)	1	0	0	1	1	5	0

GROUP SEVEN

Poland 4 Luxembourg 0
France 2 Poland 1
Belgium 2 France 1
Luxembourg 0 France 3

France (16-19)	3	2	0	1	6	3	4
Poland (16-20)	2	1	0	1	5	2	2
Belgium (13-15)	1	1	0	0	2	1	2
Luxembrg (NR-29)	2	0	0	2	0	7	0

GROUP EIGHT

N. Ireland 0 England 2
Wales 1 Scotland 1
England 5 Wales 1
Scotland 2 N. Ireland 1

England (1-1)	2	2	0	0	7	1	4
Scotland (20-14)	2	1	1	0	3	2	3
Wales (25-24)	2	0	1	1	2	6	1
N. Ireland (20-17)	2	0	0	2	1	4	0

In the best of all possible worlds the seven countries occupying the top seven places in both lists should be qualifiers for the quarter-finals of the European Championship together with one out of the three sharing eighth place in one or other of the lists—Rumania, Czechoslovakia and Sweden. But this "form" state of affairs is impossible because of the imbalance of the groups. Once again, as in the qualifying competition for both the 1962 and the 1966 World Cup and in the Second European Nations Cup competition, the East Germans find themselves in the same group as the Hungarians—and once again, therefore, I make the East Germans the most unfortunate of countries with ambitions to make their mark in European football.

Compare what is asked of them to reach the quarter-finals with what has been asked of the West German national side—the latter play in a three-strong group against Albania, whose International experience in 1966 was nil and whose participation in this present Championship we are all likely to treat with suspicion until their eleven players do, or do not, come out on the pitch against West Germany next April, and Yugoslavia where the mood of liberalisation seems to have inversely influenced interest, by players and fans, in the national football eleven such that I find *France-Football's* 13th place rather flattering to them and the Polish 20th closer to present prospects.

The East Germans, on the other hand, not only have to dispose of the Hungarians, they have also to pay due regard to a rather unpredictable Netherlands national side—who may indeed have already done the East Germans a good turn by taking a point from the Hungarians in the first match played in the group competition. Officialdom of the NATO countries may be relieved if the East Germans are eliminated and the number of matches presenting them with visa problems kept to a minimum but I fancy that most lovers of European football would feel that both East Germany and Hungary should be in the last eight of the championship.

Another country, improving steadily over recent seasons in like manner to the East Germans, who have been unlucky in the grouping are the Rumanians. For the qualifying competition for the 1966 World Cup they were in the same group as Portugal and Czechoslovakia (with Turkey making up the number)—a tough assignment from which they emerged with credit through home victories over all three but, generally narrow, defeats away from home. Since then they have introduced more of their promising young players, like Lucescu and Fratilla, and have continued to improve and to justify their 1966 rankings.

Between them and a place in the quarter-finals, however, stands Italy, and Italy have perhaps gained the edge with a home win over the Rumanians. Except that Burgnich was missing and Bianchi and Landini, who had played two parts of the match against the Soviet Union earlier in November, both played throughout, the Italians fielded the same side that had gained a narrow one-nil win over the Russians. The Rumanians scored first through Dobrin after little more than five minutes' play. Mazzola, scoring as usefully for Italy in these Inter-national championships, as he has for Inter in the Inter-club championships, equalised on the half-hour and a couple of minutes from the interval de Paoli put the Italians in front. Mazzola scored their third goal half-way through the second period but it was never easy for the Italians. Nonetheless, assuming that neither they nor the Rumanians drop points foolishly to Switzerland or Cyprus, it seems that further progress from the group will depend upon whether the Italians, masters of defensive play, can get a point in Rumania next June.

The third group in which possible "Top Eight" nations met is Group Two where Sweden, inspired and confident under the control of Orvar Bergmark, have upset form by their splendid victory over Portugal in Lisbon. But this, like Group Six, is a group with two of the World Cup qualifiers in it and Bulgaria, particularly if they lost their odd habit of presenting their opponents with own goals, could be the beneficiaries from Sweden's win in Lisbon no less than the Swedes themselves!

In Group One you can take your pick as to whether *France-Football* are right in putting Spain ahead of Czechoslovakia or *Przeglad Sportowy* for doing the reverse—personally I favour the Czechs as the ultimate qualifiers.

Sandro Mazzola (white shorts) demonstrates his goalscoring power with this shot against Chile. He is pictured sliding the ball into the empty net while Chilean goalkeeper Olivares (13) lies on the ground helpless to intervene. (M.P.I.)

Juergen Noeldner the East German forward star who has been responsible for some of his country's success in recent months. (O.)

EUROPE IN LEAGUE FOCUS

ITALY

THE Herreras reign supreme in the Italian League, but Heriberto, with Juventus, is making a determined bid to wrest the crown from Helenio of Inter-Milan.

Inter overcame one of their most difficult hurdles with a 1-0 victory in the 147th "derby" against AC Milan, who used Schnellinger as a sweeper-up and Rivera as a deep-lying No. 7 in an effort to secure a draw. The champions dominated play, but their goal was scored by a Milan defender. In the 74th minute Mazzola shot fiercely along the ground and Maddé deflected the ball in the opposite direction to Milanais's dive.

After a week on international duty, Inter's unbeaten run of nine League matches ended at Bologna. The score, 3-2, only became respectable when Corso and Mazzola hit two goals in the last seven minutes; Pascutti, Bulgarelli and the German Haller gave Bologna an early and commanding lead. However, Juventus, fresh from a victory over Setubal in the Fairs Cup, also lost their unbeaten record at Roma. It served them right, for they staked everything on a miserable goalless draw. Retribution came only eight seconds from time when, ironically, Bercellino put through his own goal.

Quite unperturbed, Inter proceeded to beat Vasas at Budapest in the European Cup, then returned home for another victory against Venezia. The Venetians were beaten much more easily than the score, 2-1, suggests; though the first goal came from a penalty by Mazzola, and Venice had to call on their substitute goalkeeper, Vincenzi, when Bubacco was injured in the last ten minutes. A stormy yet exciting match at Juventus ended in a 2-1 victory against Bologna, the winning goal coming from captain Salvadore, who had already reduced Fogli to a passenger in a tackle. Bulgarelli and Menichelli had their names taken: respectively for disputing a decision and for taking a dive in the penalty area.

Venice fared no better at home to Juventus the following Sunday, but the decisive goal came from a hotly disputed penalty for a foul which sent one Venetian prematurely to the dressing-rooms before De Paoli scored from the spot. A 2-0 victory was sufficient to put Juventus on top of the table on goal average, for Internazionale lost 1-0 at Lazio. This was an unexpected and unlucky defeat, Mazzola testing the crossbar with a tremendous drive before the Roman club scored ten minutes from time. But it delighted Moino Neri, Lazio's new manager.

Juventus met the Milanese clubs in quick succession, drawing both matches 1-1, the second at San Siro. Meanwhile, Inter regained the leadership with a 2-0 victory against Cagliari, despite the absence of Bedin, Picchi and Mazzola. This was the first time Cagliari had conceded two goals in a single game, but they had to modify their elaborate overlapping *catenaccio* defence when Riva scored in the opening minutes.

Cagliari conceded their first goal at home the following Sunday in beating Atalanta 3-1, but moved above Roma into fourth place. Naples, who drew 1-1 at Florence, stayed third, still in touch with the leaders. Cagliari's 'keeper, Reginato, has conceded only five goals, but he will be hard put to match the achievement of Lazio's 'keeper, Cei, who has faced three penalties this season, and stopped them all.

SPAIN

REAL MADRID were still unbeaten after 14 matches, extending their lead in the championship to five points. Barcelona, close challengers despite their unexpected defeat by Dundee United in the Fairs Cup, could not repeat last season's victory at Chamartin, but came close to a draw.

The winning goal was scored in the last minute by Veloso, a replacement for Serena, hurt in the European Cup-tie at Munich; earlier Benitez of Peru had brought a great save out of Betancourt. Gallego of "Barca" received a three-match suspension for swearing at the referee.

Real's injury list lengthened to three, for Amancio and Pirri were also unable to make the trip to Coruna for the next match. But Veloso again hit goal-scoring form, and the Madrilenos took a 3-0 lead; Coruna only woke up near the end, and though Gaulon and Sertucha (penalty) scored in a sudden burst of energy, Real held out. Two players were sent off in Elche's 3-1 victory over Pontevedra, but the most amazing scene occurred after a game between Cordoba and Zaragoza. Marcelino scored nine minutes from time to give the visitors a draw, but their manager, Fernando Daucik, was sharply critical of his defenders. Isasi and the other Santamaria grew so annoyed that they knocked Daucik down and disappeared into the showers; an expensive gesture, for Zaragoza fined them a huge sum, and the Aragon Football Association have suspended them for a year.

Valencia lost second place in the League after a 4-2 defeat at Chamartin, where 100,000 watched Real, revitalised by their home victory over TSV Munich, take a 4-0 lead after 42 minutes. Felix Ruiz, substituting for Amancio, scored the first after only seven minutes' play, Veloso, Velasquez and Gento adding the others. Valencia showed their potential in attack during the second half, when Waldo provided chances for Paquito and Toli, but their defence was cut to ribbons by Real's best display for some time. Espanol moved up to second place with an easy 3-0 win against Elche; Re and Martial were their outstanding players. Atletico Madrid, struggling against a run of injuries, led 2-0 at Pontevedra until the last ten minutes, but could still only draw.

Adelardo and Collar returned to the team for the following match against Seville, but Atletico's 3-0 victory was marred by yet another injury to Inglesias. Real, still without Amancio, rested Sanchis for their trip to Cordoba. They won 1-0 with a late goal by Grosso, but Jara, Cordoba's young international, looked the best player on the field.

Atletico gained a European Cup play-off with a mid-week victory over Vojvodina, and 113,000 went to Chamartin to see if the champions could surprise Real in the local derby. However, Urtiago, the hero of the European Cup-tie, seemed rather out of his depth in the Bernabeu bowl, and Real took a quick 2-0 lead — Pirri, from a free-kick by Gento, and Velasquez scoring. Atletico had the better of the second half, Mendoza reducing the lead in the 66th minute, but missed several good chances.

RUSSIA

DYNAMO KIEV have swept the board. Assured of the title many matches before the end, winners of the Soviet Cup, they took six of the prizes awarded for special achievements. They had the finest attack (66 goals in 36 games, poor by English standards); the biggest victory (6-1 against Army Rostov, who finished second); the largest difference (49) between goals scored and conceded; the best away record; the best reserve team; and, automatically, the best combined record for League and reserve League, as both teams won their championship.

Moscow, in with a chance for the higher placings before the final rounds of League matches, were completely eclipsed. The Red Army lost two successive home matches, 0-2 against Koutaissi and 1-2 against Dynamo Minsk, then drew 0-0 at Neftianik: one goal in three games after scoring 57 in 32. They lost fourth place to Spartak, who despite their Cup-Winners' Cup defeat by Rapid, found their best form towards the end of the season with successive 2-1 away wins at Chakhter, Kairat and Pakhtakor, after they had been as low as tenth.

Neftianik Bakou, the club run by a petroleum company, confirmed their third place with a 3-0 victory against Spartak in the final match. A week earlier, Army Rostov made certain of being runners-up with a 2-1 victory over Torpedo in Moscow, watched in heavy rain by 32,000. The former champions could finish only sixth, despite the excellent form shown by Streltsov. But they qualify for next season's European Cup-Winners' Cup as beaten finalists.

The army units in Odessa, the Black Sea port, seem to need football fatigues. In 1965 they finished bottom of the First Division, but were saved from relegation when the League was increased to 19 clubs. After another disastrous season they are replaced by Zaria from Longask, who have every prospect of winning more than one match, which was all Odessa could achieve.

Dynamo Kiev lost their last game of the season 3-1 at Dynamo Tbilissi, who were bent on revenge for a 4-0 thrashing at Kiev early in the year. In a fast and exciting game Metreveli and Meskhi combined superbly to disorganise the champions' defence. Meskhi scored the first goal on the half-hour from a long through pass by Metreveli, who repeated his effort for Assatiani to beat Bannikov from close range. Metreveli scored a third goal 15 minutes from time, leaving Khmelnitzki to reduce the lead very close to the end. Despite missing four matches, another Tbilissi forward, Datounachvili, leads the list of scorers:

Datounachvili (Dynamo Tbilissi)	20 goals
Bichevetz (Dynamo Kiev)	19 „
Kazakov (Red Army), Ossianin (Spartak)	15 „
Kozlov (Locomotiv Moscow), Kopaev, Matveek (Army Rostov), Touaev (Neftianik) ...	14 „

Dynamo Kiev look a much stronger team than when they last won the Soviet championship in 1961. But their decisive defeat by Celtic in the 1965–66 Cup-Winners' Cup, and the obsession with defence in Russian football, may prove as big a barrier to progress in the European Cup as the climatic conditions.

HOLLAND 0 1

IF Bill Shankly had visited Amsterdam a fortnight earlier, and seen Ajax play Feyenoord instead of Telstar, Liverpool might have approached their European Cup-tie with less unjustifiable confidence. For Ajax beat their closest challengers, previously undefeated, by the remarkable margin of 5-0, a match which showed their potential against even the strongest teams in Europe.

Ajax suffered a reaction to their 5-1 victory over Liverpool in the first leg, losing for the first time this season at ADO in The Hague. ADO are in fourth place, not to be trifled with at home, but Ajax's unnatural defensive game seemed an error of judgement. Once behind to a shot from Aarts they could not recover, and Heynen scored a second and decisive goal. Feyenoord pulled back one of their three-point deficit by drawing 1-1 at Xerxes. Both the goals were scored by foreigners, Radokovic of Yugoslavia for the home team, Bild of Sweden for the visitors.

Xerxes then had to face Ajax at Amsterdam on the week-end following their 2-2 draw at Liverpool. The casualties of the European ties, Suurbier and Groot, could not turn out, but Pit Keizer, Ajax's outstanding winger, scored a remarkable goal from long range after 20 minutes. Xerxes equalised following a mistake in the League leaders' defence, but in the 53rd minute Keizer placed a corner perfectly for Cruyff to regain the lead. The centre-forward who had humiliated Yeats laid on further goals for Nuninga and Wolf. Feyenoord, meanwhile, beat Elinkwyk 4-0 after a goalless first half; Kindwall of Sweden scored two of the goals.

YUGOSLAVIA

SARAJEVO, I should warn would-be visitors, has one of the most boring museums in the world — I was dragged around it last summer, on my way back from Bulgaria. But the city may become famous for something else apart from the assassination of Archduke Ferdinand: its football team have won the autumn championship.

They made almost certain of finishing the first half of the season in first place by beating Vojvodina 3-1 in their 12th match, though the present champions were a little tired after meeting Atletico Madrid in the Fairs Cup. Radnicki Nis, the only team who could realistically hope to catch Sarajevo, surprisingly lost their unbeaten home record 1-0 to Dynamo Zagreb; the local police intervened just in time to prevent fans from lynching the referee, who escaped with cuts and bruises.

Despite reaching the quarter-finals of the European Cup, Vojvodina have not won a League match since October. After their defeat by Sarajevo they were held to a 2-2 home draw by Red Star, Belgrade, despite leading twice. Then came a 2-0 defeat by lowly-placed OFK Belgrade, and a 1-1 home draw with Velez.

Partizan Belgrade, European Cup finalists last season, appear to have recovered from the depredations to their team. Though still lacking both manager and trainer, they have recruited new talent, in particular Hosic, a fast and dangerous goal-scorer spotted in Second Division football. Partizan moved into third place with three successive victories, the last before the winter break no less than 7-0 against Zagreb, achieved by a superb attacking display in pouring rain.

by ROGER MACDONALD

FORM IN EUROPE

Inter-Milan	W – – – L W W – L – W D
Real Madrid	W – W W W – W – W – – D
Vojvodina	L – D – L – D W – W – –
Celtic	W – W W D W W – W – D L
Linfield	D – D – W – W – L – – L
CSKA Sofia	W W W – D L W – D – – –
Duk. Prague	– – – – – W – – – – – –
Ajax	W – W – p W L D W – W –
Rangers	W W W – L D W – W – p W
Zaragoza	W L D – D – L – W – – D
Rapid	L – W – L W W – – – – –
Bay. Munich	– W L – W – L – W – – –
Servette	D – W – L – – – – – – –
Slavia Sofia	L L D W L – W – D – – –
Vasas Gyor	D – – – – L – – – – – –
Standard	L – W L W – p W D – – W

(The table indicates sequence of wins, draws or defeats in competitive matches for the 16 surviving teams in the European Cup or Cup-Winners' Cup from mid-November until the end of the year. The columns distinguish between mid-week and week-end matches, usually on different days. Few matches are played on the Continent over Christmas, and many leagues have a winter break. p—postponed. Letters in bold type indicate European ties.)

LEAGUE TABLES

ITALY

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts.
Inter-Milan	15	10	3	2	26	8	23
Juventus	15	8	6	1	20	7	22
Cagliari	15	8	4	3	20	5	20
Fiorentina	15	7	6	2	27	12	20
Napoli	15	8	4	3	16	9	20
Bologna	15	7	3	5	21	15	17
Roma	15	7	3	5	16	12	17
Brescia	15	5	6	4	11	10	16
Milan	15	3	9	3	16	16	15
Torino	15	3	8	4	14	16	14
Spal	14	4	5	5	12	13	13
Mantova	14	1	11	2	10	12	13
Atalanta	15	4	5	6	14	26	13
Lanerossi	15	3	6	6	11	17	12
Lazio	15	3	6	6	10	17	12
Venezia	15	1	6	8	11	26	8
Lecco	15	1	5	9	6	20	7
Foggia	15	2	2	11	12	32	6

HOLLAND

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts.
Ajax	18	15	2	1	70	17	32
Feyenoord	18	11	6	1	45	16	28
Sparta	18	11	4	3	28	15	26
ADO	18	10	5	3	40	21	25
Go Ahead	18	10	2	6	33	18	22
DWS	19	7	6	6	35	37	20
PSV	18	7	5	6	34	31	19
GVAV	19	8	3	8	32	29	19
Xerxes	19	6	6	7	30	27	18
MVV	18	4	9	5	22	28	17
DOS	18	7	3	8	28	39	17
NAC	18	5	6	7	26	28	16
Sittardia	19	5	6	8	19	24	16
FC Twente	18	3	7	8	24	33	13
Fortuna '54	18	4	4	10	28	41	12
Telstar	19	4	4	11	26	45	12
Willem II	17	2	5	10	20	46	9
Elinkwijk	18	2	3	13	19	64	7

FRANCE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts.
St. Etienne	21	12	5	4	39	23	29
Nantes	21	10	7	4	45	31	27
Lens	21	11	4	6	44	29	26
Angers	21	9	8	5	42	29	25
Sedan	21	8	8	5	36	32	24
Bordeaux	21	8	7	6	28	22	23
Lille	21	9	5	7	32	26	23
Strasbourg	20	10	3	7	32	30	23
Nice	21	9	3	9	35	33	21
Valenciennes	21	9	3	9	28	27	21
Marseilles	21	7	7	7	20	22	21
Sochaux	20	5	9	6	26	27	19
Rouen	20	7	5	8	14	20	19
Stade	20	6	6	8	14	21	18
Toulouse	20	5	7	8	21	28	17
Reims	20	6	5	9	27	34	17
Lyon	20	6	5	9	27	38	17
Rennes	21	6	4	11	31	36	16
Monaco	20	4	6	10	21	30	14
Nimes	21	4	4	13	24	48	12

YUGOSLAVIA

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts.
Sarajevo	15	10	4	1	24	10	24
Partizan	15	7	6	2	24	10	20
Dinamo	15	7	6	2	21	11	20
Zeleznicar	15	8	2	5	19	17	18
Radnicki	15	8	1	6	18	12	17
Red Star, Belgrade	15	5	5	4	27	22	17
Vojvodina	15	5	7	3	22	19	17
Hajduk	15	6	4	5	26	15	16
Vardar	15	7	2	6	26	26	16
Rijeka	15	4	4	7	18	22	12
Velez	15	4	4	7	15	18	12
Laibach	15	5	2	8	15	19	12
Ofk Belgrade	15	3	5	7	15	20	11
Zagreb	15	4	3	8	16	30	11
Sutievska	15	3	4	8	12	31	10
Celik	15	2	3	10	9	23	7

LEAGUE TABLES

ENGLAND

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts.
Liverpool	24	13	7	4	45	28	33
Manchester United	24	15	3	6	49	33	33
Nottingham Forest	25	13	6	6	38	30	32
Stoke City	25	14	3	8	45	31	31
Chelsea	25	10	10	5	50	38	30
Leeds United	24	11	8	5	36	30	30
Tottenham Hotspur	25	13	3	9	45	37	29
Burnley	25	10	7	8	52	43	27
Leicester City	24	11	4	9	49	41	26
Sheffield Wednesday	25	8	10	7	31	28	26
West Ham United	25	10	5	10	62	48	25
Everton	24	9	7	8	30	28	25
Arsenal	25	8	7	10	31	33	23
Fulham	25	9	5	11	44	48	23
Sheffield United	25	8	7	10	30	36	23
Sunderland	24	8	4	12	37	43	20
Manchester City	23	7	6	10	23	33	20
Southampton	25	8	4	13	39	56	20
Aston Villa	24	8	3	13	31	45	19
West Bromwich Albion	25	7	2	16	44	54	16
Blackpool	25	4	7	14	28	43	15
Newcastle	24	4	6	14	18	51	14

SCOTLAND

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts.
Celtic	19	15	3	1	68	24	33
Aberdeen	19	12	3	4	44	24	27
Rangers	17	11	4	2	51	16	26
Hibernian	20	11	2	7	51	35	24
Kilmarnock	20	9	5	6	28	26	23
Clyde	18	10	2	6	35	30	22
Dundee United	19	8	5	6	44	34	21
Dundee	20	8	5	7	37	34	21
Airdrie	18	8	4	6	24	17	20
Hearts	18	6	6	6	25	23	18
Dunfermline	18	6	5	7	42	34	17
Motherwell	18	4	7	7	30	33	15
St. Johnstone	18	6	3	9	34	41	15
Partick	18	4	6	8	25	45	14
Falkirk	17	5	3	9	16	34	13
Stirling Albion	18	3	5	10	18	49	11
St. Mirren	18	2	3	13	15	50	7
Ayr United	19	0	5	14	10	48	5

PORTUGAL

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts.
Academica	13	10	1	2	29	12	21
Benfica	13	10	1	2	24	10	21
Porto	13	7	2	4	21	13	16
CUF	13	6	4	3	17	12	16
Leixoes	13	7	2	4	16	14	16
Braga	13	5	5	3	18	10	15
Guimares	13	6	1	6	18	16	13
Sporting	13	4	4	5	16	15	12
Atletico	13	4	2	7	17	21	10
Varzim	13	3	4	6	13	21	10
Setubal	13	3	4	6	7	13	10
Belenenses	13	2	4	7	8	16	8
Beira Mar	13	2	3	8	12	27	7
San Joan	13	1	5	7	12	28	7

Betrayed by the matter of words

Leslie Vernon speaking personally . . .

"Si tacuisses, philosophus mansisses" is one of the few Latin proverbs I remember from my distant student days. Loosely translated, it means: "If you would have kept your mouth shut, you would still be regarded as a wise man." After the inglorious exit of Liverpool from the European Cup, this motto should be incorporated into the club's emblem. The K.O. itself was not truly humiliating; after all, the champion team of any country, even that of Holland, does represent considerable playing strength. But for me the really depressing aspects of these matches were the utterances of the Liverpool manager, Bill Shankly.

Mr. Shankly was deservedly elected as "Manager of the Year" last season. His record with Liverpool is magnificent — the team's consistency, the players' loyalty, behaviour and 100 per cent endeavour are all fine testimonials of first-class leadership. The remarkable achievements of the past five years cannot be denied, but they contrast sadly with remarks committed in print by Mr. Shankly in the past.

Defensive

After the 5-1 defeat at Amsterdam: "This was ridiculous, they played defensively in front of their own supporters." (How many goals would Ajax have scored if they had played attacking football?) Before the second leg at Anfield Mr. Shankly became the Cassius Clay of football: "We are going to score seven goals," he said. (Why not five, six or eight?)

Ajax did not fall in seven—Liverpool was out of the Cup, which was their greatest ambition to win, as they have often declared in the past. We had expected a note of regret from Mr. Shankly and perhaps a word of praise for the sporting winners. Instead the Liverpool boss declared that the Champions' Cup was not really important, the main thing is to do well in the domestic competitions.

Why? Because if Liverpool wins the Championship or the FA Cup, they qualify for Europe, which is ... eh! ... where was I? A true "Alice in Wonderland" statement, but this approach has unlimited possibilities, I can hear Sir Alf saying: "I am not interested in the World Cup Finals, but we must win the qualifying competition!" The joke has a bitter taste—after the England versus Argentina match, the world press declared that the English are bad winners. After reading Mr. Shankly's outbursts they are saying that the English are bad losers as well.

The European Cup is the premier club competition in the world. To minimise its importance after being knocked out is childishly futile, and an insult to the thousands of Liverpool supporters who made expensive journeys to Ploesti, Brussels and Amsterdam. My own sincere advice to a great manager—speak only through your team's performances, otherwise silence is golden.

The longish suspension meted out to Nobby Stiles brought to the public's attention the perennial question of dirty play, foul language used by the players, etc. How to deal with it? Who is responsible? The comments and suggestions were varied, as to be expected, with few constructive ideas as far as any possible solution is concerned. Accusing fingers were pointing at the players, managers, referees, the crowd, the wages structure, modern society and even pop music.

I am personally not convinced that the players are worse behaved than they ever were. The statistically minded British press attaches too much importance to the actual number of players sent off in any given week or season. If a Fourth Division full-back and a Second Division link-forward have been sent off on a Saturday, that was labelled a "dirty week", no matter what happened in the other 44 matches.

Every referee has his own ideas of what constitutes an offence bad enough to warrant sending off. I have seen a player getting marching orders for questioning the linesman's ancestry, while in other matches "punch-ups" went unpunished. When we are discussing cleaning up the game, first we have to realise the fundamental truth, that the most important single factor of a football match is the control exercised by the referee. This is a recognised fact all over the world, except in England, where hardly any attention is paid to the personality of the official.

I do not mean the yearly nonsense published about the Cup Final ref. "Mr. B. O. Blank (44), who is a refuse collector, was delighted to hear that his lifelong ambition has materialised. 'I regard the Final just like any other game,' said Mr. Blank. 'I will make the same mistakes as if it was a junior match on the common. I thought I had a chance—it is lucky for me that no team from Shropshire got to Wembley this year.' Mr. Blank, who decided to take the gold medal and not the fee for the Final, refereed his first game at the age of eight, when his teacher told him that he was too small to be a basketball international."

Spotlight

The spotlight should be focused on the referees all the time, they should be regarded as vitally important contributors of an afternoon's football. Their names should be published prominently, as on the Continent, and most important of all, they should be criticised constructively after each game. Every good match report ought to contain a judgement on the referee, who in turn would be more conscious of his own importance, not as a pocket dictator, but as a respected person with great responsibilities.

After a short period we would have several personality referees, like Reg Leafe, Arthur Ellis, Mervyn Griffith of the recent past, instead of the band of faceless, nameless nonentities who control the game today. The star players would regard the refs. as their equals—sportsmen in the public eye. I consider it is the solemn duty of the Press to help to bring about a situation where the players have more respect for the officials and the referees have a greater sense of personal involvement.

Another improvement would be to follow the lead of the Hungarian Referees' Association, who decided to abolish the ludicrous system of taking names. They argue that either an offending player should be sent off, or that a free-kick should be sufficient punishment. Taking names is often a cheap device by the referee to appease the home crowd. No more note-book waving, no more compromise—rather quick dismissals! The statisticians will be horrified, but the game will be better for it.

"Non-question"

The "non-question" of the year is the constant argument concerning the numbering of the players. This custom originally intended to help identification by the crowd and referee, but nowadays is used as a weapon in a kind of battle of wits between opposing managers.

Consequently, some teams number their players according to their true positions on the field, some stick to the old system irrespective of their particular tactical formation. It does not make the slightest difference to the actual play, the players themselves are not even conscious of the fact that there are numbers on the backs of their shirts.

This sort of gamesmanship, playing with numbers and positions has an air of desperation about it. If the best thing a manager can do is to put a No. 5 shirt on his centre-forward then he should look for a new centre-forward! The whole problem is simply non-existent, they can use the numbers as they like, as long as they correspond with the names printed in the official programme for identification.

Finally, sincere congratulations for well deserved honours to Sir Alfred Ramsey and Messrs. Follows, Moore and Willson. The more recognition individuals receive for their services to football, the better for the game as a whole. I always thought the only Beatle who deserved an M.B.E. is George Best.

Second double achieved

South Africa by NORMAN D. REICH

FOR Highlands Park, 1966 brought a second League-Cup double on the trot—an outstanding achievement unlikely to be repeated in many a year.

Only three clubs in South Africa are truly professional in thought and deed — Highlands Park, Durban United and Port Elizabeth City. The rest, unfortunately, are but pseudo-amateurs.

Highlands Park have reaped rich reward for their foresight, while United have been successful mostly when Highlands have stumbled. Port Elizabeth City are possibly the most progressive-minded of all and the Cups must surely be just around the corner for them.

Highlands romped home in the League championship by seven points. They suffered their first home League defeat in nearly two years when Port Elizabeth City beat them 4-2 in a thriller at the Rand Stadium. City finished second and United close behind in third place.

Highlands again steam-rolled their way through to the Castle Cup final, beating Cape Town City in the semi-final in Cape Town. Arcadia, beaten by Highlands in the final in 1965, beat Durban City in the other semi-final to reach only their second final. In the first semi-final in Pretoria, Arcadia were well on top for most of the match but City equalised late in the game and the Durban club were thus hot favourites to reach the final with the replay at Kinsmead, Durban. An early goal, and some tremendous defending by a brilliant Arcadia rearguard, however, won the day, so it was an identical final to 1965.

There were several changes in the sides from the '65 game. The line-up was:

Highlands Park: Ryder; Rufus, Stewart; Gough, Jacobitz, Frickleton; Hume, Santoro, Walter, Kalk, McIntosh.

Arcadia United: Gething; Goddard, Lloyd; Tocknell, Breitenbach, Hewie; Werge, Barber, Cocker, Shaw, Botten.

Arcadia had gained the two Charlton Athletic South Africans, Brian Tocknell and John Hewie, since the previous year. Their side, showing more changes than Highlands, did, however, have a much more compact air about it from the beaten 1965 side. Hewie and Tocknell were in no small way responsible for this.

Arcadia began strongly, but after only 15 minutes, the pendulum swung sharply towards Highlands Park. Tactically, Arcadia had surrendered any chance of beating this fine Highlands team. Arcadia tried to slow the proceedings down and this played right into the hands of Highlands, who prefer the slower, cultured way of going about things. A piercing pass landed in Kalk's stride and the big inside-forward lashed a fierce shot into the roof of Gething's net, and from that point on, Highlands had one hand firmly back on the cup.

Almost on the stroke of half-time, Botten, who is also a Springbok cricketer, rose high to head goalwards and Ryder made his only spectacular save of the match.

After half-time, Highlands tightened their grip as the game progressed. Kalk got a second spectacular goal in the 53rd minute after Gething had made a courageous save. Walter, Highlands' fine Brazilian-born centre-forward, added a third soon after and virtually only Gething stood between Highlands and a record score. In the last 15 minutes, Highlands slowed down play to a walk, pegging Arcadia back into their own half for the rest of the game.

Once again, Highlands failed to win the end-of-season Floodlight Bowl, a trophy they have yet to annex. After again accounting for Arcadia in the first round, they were thrashed 7-4 by Durban United in Durban in the semi-final. Rangers were the other side through to the final. Rangers, probably South Africa's most tradition-steeped club, had not won a trophy since 1959. At last the drought was over for their loyal fans, for Rangers were worthy 3-1 winners in an exciting final.

So another South African season came to a close. Johannesburg Corinthians won promotion and Bloemfontein City and East Rand United were relegated. It will surely be remembered as Highlands Park's season.

Before soccer was forgotten completely for the two-month close-season, Port Elizabeth City dramatically announced that they would play as full-time professionals in 1967. It is indicative of the backwardness of many South African officials that they criticised the coastal club's move just when so many of the leading coaches from overseas were pointing out that South Africa was falling further and further behind the rest of the world because full-time professionalism had not been introduced.

If Highlands and one or two other leading clubs follow City's lead, the game in South Africa could get its biggest boost since paid soccer was first introduced in 1959.

South Africa's attempt to break the FIFA embargo against touring teams failed. The FASA is 75 years old this year and it was hoped that Manchester United or Juventus would be allowed to play in the Republic by special permission of the FIFA executive but the appeal was turned down after all.

For the moment, the scheme has been nipped in the bud, but officials of Rangers FC are now thinking of importing four of England's World Cup winning side to play for an Overseas-born XI against the South African-born XI on May 31. The players being considered are Jack Charlton (Leeds United), Bobby Moore (West Ham), Alan Ball (Everton) and Geoff Hurst (West Ham). Again, the players concerned would have to be "transferred" from their British clubs to South African clubs. After the game, they would be "transferred" back to their original clubs. It is unlikely that Everton, who paid £110,000 for Ball, would rely on the good offices of a distant South African club to return their property, for the South Africans would be acting within FIFA rules if they were then to offer Ball up to the highest bidder on the world market.

South Africa's only answer to this thorny question lies in getting back into the world body, for despite views held by some South African officials, it is still all-powerful in world soccer and is likely to grow even stronger. Somehow, a way must be found to get back in the fold, or else soccer will wither and eventually sink back to the level it was at ten years ago.

Springbok cricketer Jackie Botten (Arcadia United outside-left) heads towards the Highlands Park goal. Charlie Gough and the Highlands' captain, Malcolm Rufus (dark shirts) are in close attendance. (N.D.R.)

Picture shows the Belgium team just before the match against France. Bottom row left to right: Thio, Lambert, Jurion, Van Himst, Puis. Back row: Heylens, Cornelis, Plaskie, Van Moer, Hanon and Nicolay. Cornelis did not in fact play and was replaced by Bare. (O.)

Skill now added to courage

by ULRIK NIMMEGEERS

ONE year ago, an over-confident Belgian side had its saddest day in history when it was beaten 2-1 by the Bulgarians in a play-off for a place in the World Cup finals. The fame of the attractive Belgian national squad had spread widely over the Continent in the last few years and victories included impressive home wins against Brazil (5-1) and Bulgaria (5-0), away wins in Spain (0-2), Portugal (1-2) and France (0-3) and a 2-2 draw at Wembley.

Belgium was considered to be the champion of the friendly internationals and so were Anderlecht, the League champions, at club level. But the continuous failure of the purple-shirted Brussels side to reach the final stages of the European Cup and of the unexpected elimination of the "Red Devils" in the World Cup preliminary round, have increased the demand for more "realism".

As was put forward in a recent issue of WORLD SOCCER, the arrival of modest, but hard-working Hungarian trainer Beres at Anderlecht, was the first sign of this change.

On Armistice Day last November, Belgium at least won a match with some "significance", beating the French 2-1, having been unable to win against their northern neighbours in the last ten years! The Belgian superiority was overwhelming and the French newspaper *L'Equipe* wrote that the "tricolores" escaped their worst ever humiliation only by the fact that the Belgian forwards were punchless and that goalkeeper Carnus was outstanding for France.

There has been much controversy about the first of the Belgian goals—both scored by star player Paul Van Himst.

All French papers and most of the Belgian sportswriters were convinced that it was off-side. The Flemish paper *Het Volk* put it as follows: "Thanks, Mister Taylor!" (the English referee), but the Belgian TV authorities have clearly demonstrated, three times successfully in a slow-motion film sequence, that the English referee was right after all and that the goal was valid, although Van Himst himself hesitated, waiting for an off-side whistle, before dropping the ball past Carnus.

The only French player capable of producing some danger to Nicolay in the Belgium goal was Georges Lech from Lens, who scored France's only goal and whose dribbling spread much confusion in a Belgian defence, made up of three Anderlecht players (Heylens, Plaskie and Hanon) and one player from FC Liège, Baré, who in fact was a stand-in for Anderlecht's fourth selected defender, Cornelis, who was unable to play through illness. As a result of this match, there is now little doubt among Continental experts that Belgium is going to win their group in the European Championship. Luxembourg would have to produce a miracle in order to qualify and the recent France–Poland (2-1) tie has clearly demonstrated the shortcomings of the Polish team. At least, Belgium seems able to win matches of importance, although the final 2-1 result on Armistice Day at the Heysel Stadium in Brussels has again proved the lack of one more outstanding striker next to Van Himst.

However that may be, the results of the "Red Devils" (a nickname first given to the Belgian national squads about half a century ago in connection with their countless heroic battles in the "derbies of the Low Countries" against the Netherlands) now seem no longer to rest entirely on their legendary courage and fitness, but much more on brilliant technical skill.

Belgium centre-forward Raoul Lambert (9), has drawn France's goalkeeper, Carnus, out of position and prepared to shoot at goal. This was France's first defeat at the hands of the Belgiums for ten years. (O.)

EUROPEAN COMPETITION NOT WORTH WHILE

says TOM JAGGER

IT was a discussion which gradually hotted up in the comforting splendour of one of the boardrooms of the mighty.

Famous players of other days, well-known managers, and directors with over quarter of a century's experience had joined in.

So it was what you might term pretty representative and knowledgeable. Certainly well worth while anyone's attention.

There was disagreement over Europe. Were the passports for overseas soccer worth all the struggle and the heartbreak? Were they worth the danger of permanent injury to star players?

Those connected with the clubs with European ambitions cited the prizes, and the prestige, and the way in which success of that kind won back most of those thousands who had begun to stay away and become fireside fans.

Others referred to the constant brawls, feuding, flying fists, eruptions, scars of warfare, and so on. And, for good measure, they tossed in comments about differing standards of refereeing.

They made out first-rate cases against that spreading cry of "Into Europe". One underlined the fact that—

- more and more British players are coming back as casualties
- more and more are receiving marching orders from referees whose interpretation of the laws is different from ours
- more and more teams are making savage headlines by engaging in fights which damage the image of both club and country.

There is not the slightest doubt that European clubs are collectively determined to keep what they have—at all costs.

One manager said it was his opinion that no British team will come back with a top prize until there is a radical change in refereeing, and playing tactics, and control of the crowd.

I gave all this information to half a dozen famous internationals some time afterwards, and it was equally interesting to hear their views on Europe. *All* said they were glad when they'd been and come back.

The skipper of one team said he was frightened almost out of his life on his last trip across the North Sea, and frankly admitted he shirked most tackles in the closing stages of the fiercest game he had ever played in.

The goalkeeper, a man with a reputation for fearlessness, quite openly confessed that against some of the Spanish and Italian forwards he changed his tactics completely.

Instead of diving at their feet as he would have done in any British game, he held back—"knowing that they would never hesitate about kicking my head off, and apologising afterwards."

The centre-half of a team renowned for its toughness in English League games, remarked that he was given such a going over on his last trip abroad that his wife kept saying he should never go again.

Threatens

He added, unashamedly: "I've always backed the view about the best man winning, but it's not the best man who wins over there—it's the man who goes into a tackle with the heel up, and threatens to break your leg every time."

The centre-forward showed a line of studmarks stretching from his knee upwards. They had been inherited a few weeks ago, but, being deeper than usual, had left what is likely to be a permanent scar of war.

Of his experience, he said: "Once you've been playing in Europe you laugh at those who say it's tough over here. Shirt tugging and the other little British tricks in crowded goalmouths used to annoy me, but they don't any more.

Stamping

"When you've taken a bashing from some of their Hellfire defenders who think nothing of kicking you up into the air, and stamping on your hands if you don't pull 'em out of the way when you're on the ground, nothing that happens in British League soccer counts as dirty.

"In our club we'd be glad if the manager got that European bug out of his nut, and just let us concentrate on winning one of the English prizes, and to hell with anything they've got to offer in Europe."

Of course, most managers are eager to win a coveted passport because not only does it mean prestige but big cash rewards, a factor obviously very pleasing to directors who, like the managers, are not in any danger of being hurt physically.

That was the point a retired international referee made to me. He said that officials are falling over themselves for European soccer tit-bits, then grumble about opponents' tactics and the standard of refereeing when things go wrong.

I put my view forward and he agreed. Like the players did. For I say that we must forget the idea that Continental soccer will foster goodwill, however noble the idea might have been at the start.

We must refuse to accept any more indignities, and stop the game being dragged through mud any longer.

Forget phoney prestige. Forget the cash lure. Let's concentrate on our own homespun game again until the next World Cup.

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Where they stand at the moment

THIS is always a good time for a quick run around Europe with an eye both to the progress of clubs in the European club competitions and of the position in the various national leagues. Several of the latter—those of the Scandinavian countries and of Hungary and the Soviet Union for example, ended before the end of 1966; others, like Bulgaria, Yugoslavia, Czechoslovakia, Rumania and East Germany for example, have closed down until early in March, but those had reached approximately their half-way stage before the pause, and so, too, as I write, have most of the remaining European Leagues.

I, and others, have already commented upon the final positions in the Scandinavian countries. It remains only to add now that they have lost all direct interest in the current European club competitions. In the Champions Cup, Malmo (Sweden), Esbjerg (Denmark) and Haka Valkeakosken (Finland) were all First Round "fallers" and the Norwegian representatives, Valerengen, might have been except that the Albanian club, Nandori of Tirana, withdrew. Valerengen then had a fair chance of reaching the Quarter-Finals when they were drawn in the Second Round against Linfield — First Round victors over Aris of Luxembourg. The Ulster club were also aware of the rare chance of making history, however, and got away to a splendid start by winning 4-1 in Norway. That the Norwegians played well enough in the second leg to earn a draw (1-1) may have appeased the feelings of their supporters but was irrelevant to the final aggregate result.

Brave

The Scandinavians in the Cup-Winners' Cup also departed early from the competition but not without putting up some brave performances. The Turku club, for example, drew one-all in Switzerland against Servette in the first leg but then lost at home in Finland by the odd goal in three. Servette then proceeded to knock out the Dutch club, Sparta of Rotterdam, by 2-0 and 0-1, and Sparta, as I write, are third in the Netherlands top division just four points behind Ajax the club who convincingly disposed of English champions, Liverpool, in the Champions' Cup. Servette, who narrowly beat the Finnish cup-holders (who themselves finished in the bottom half of the Finnish League table), thus eliminated the club, Sparta, who are within reach in the Netherlands of the club who beat Liverpool — second in the Football League as I write.... That's how dangerous it is to attempt to apply "Form Guides" to inter-club football!

Liverpool's neighbours, Everton, had quite a tussle against their Scandinavian opponents in the Cup-Winners' Cup when,

EUROPEAN COMMENTARY by GORDON JEFFERY

after gaining what should have been an entirely safe draw in Denmark, they had to keep going at top speed throughout to gain an odd-goal-in-three second leg win over Aalborg—like Turku a club that finished the 1966 season in the lower half of their national league table.

Responsible

Third and last of the Scandinavians in the Cup-Winners' Cup (there was no Swedish entry) were Skeid Oslo who were responsible for one of the surprises of this year's competition when they beat Zaragoza by three goals to two in the first leg. The Spanish club, beaten finalists in the Fairs Cup competition for 1965–66, only squeezed through by the narrowest of margins when they won their home leg 3-1.

Skeid will be back again next season—in the Champions' Cup where Sweden will be represented by Djurgarden and Denmark by Hvidore — both the latter clubs were amongst the fallen in this year's Fairs Cup competition when Djurgarden went out in the First Round to Lokomotive Leipzig and Hvidore, after a First Round bye, lost to Eintracht Frankfurt. Generally, however, as I have already indicated when mentioning Turku and Aalborg, the Scandinavian clubs taking part in European competitions have not shown up well in their national leagues — Orgryte bottom of the top half of the Swedish table, Malmo in the lower half; Odense relegated in Denmark and Esbjerg only just above the half-way mark; Frigg and Valerengen, fourth and fifth respectively in the ten-strong Norwegian First Division.

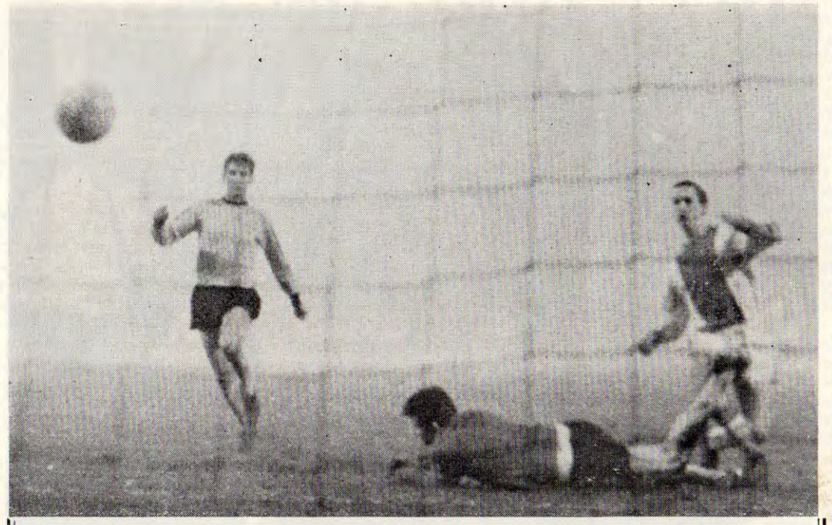
And much the same can be written about the two Soviet representatives, Torpedo Moscow in the Champions' Cup and Spartak Moscow in the Cup-Winners' Cup. Neither did badly in Europe but neither made much progress. Torpedo Moscow were unfortunate in missing the fair number of possible easy chances in the opening round and in finding themselves drawn against the former Champions, Inter-Milan. Only to lose one-nil in Italy promised well for the Soviet side but they suffered a frustrating second-leg match that went goalless. Their Moscow rivals, Spartak, had an easier initial task against OFK Belgrade and recorded home and away wins. Rapid of Vienna should not have been too difficult opposition for the Russian side but the Austrians gained a draw in Moscow and a one-nil win at home. Torpedo Moscow in two matches against Inter failed to score: Spartak Moscow in two matches against Rapid scored only once—and it is still goals that count in the final reckoning!

Consolation

Spartak Moscow might have shown up better in the 1966 final tables in the USSR if they had thought a bit more about scoring goals — they totalled 45 in 36 matches compared with Dynamo Kiev's 66, Red Army Rostov's 54 and Neftaniuk Baku's 56, but Spartak in fourth place behind those three named clubs had the consolation of knowing they were the top Moscow club. Red Army, Moscow, followed them in fifth place with Torpedo seventh and Dynamo eighth.

The Hungarian complete season also finished before the turn of the year and the oddity here was that the only one of their three European representatives this season to be knocked out was the outstanding national league club—Vasas of Budapest. Vasas, unbeaten in 26 matches, nine of them drawn, were six points leaders over Ferencvaros who had 37 points. Tatabanya and Ujpest were third and fourth with 32 points and the "other" Vasas (of Gyor) came fifth one point further in arrears—or 12 points less than Vasas Budapest. It is, nonetheless, Ferencvaros and Vasas Gyor who still have direct interest in the European club competitions. Vasas Budapest, the Hungarian title-holders of course, had two splendid victories over Sporting Lisbon (5-0, 2-0) in the Champions' Cup but were then drawn against Inter-Milan. In Milan the Italian champions only came through by the odd goal in three and Vasas's hopes were high but the only goals scored in the second leg were two by Mazzola. Vasas Gyor meantime in the Cup-Winners' Cup also met Portuguese and Italian opponents but in the reverse order from Vasas Budapest—and with continuing success. Vasas Gyor started in Florence and trailed one-nil against Fiorentina but at home won by four goals to two. Then in the Second Round [the First Round in the official reckoning but it is a little tedious writing of the Extra Preliminary Round and then the Preliminary Round for a competition with so few entries that the Second (official) Round is, in fact, the Quarter-Final] Vasas Gyor played Sporting Braga the Portuguese Cup-Winners—and beat them (3-0 and 0-2) on aggregate.

Hungary's sole entry in the Fairs' Cup, Ferencvaros, have reached the "last 16" stage by beating the Yugoslav club, Olimpia Ljubljana (3-3 and 3-0) and the Swedish club, Orgryte (0-0 and 7-1). Olimpia was one of three Yugoslav clubs to be knocked out. Olimpia were in 12th position (in a division of 16 clubs) when the Yugoslav season was halted for the winter months. One place below them were those well-known European campaigners, OFK Belgrade, who had been defeated, as mentioned before, by Spartak Moscow in the Cup-Winners' Cup. The third eliminated Yugoslav club were Red Star Belgrade, currently seventh in the table, who were beaten by Valencia in the Fairs' Cup. Two higher placed clubs are still in European competitions: Dynamo Zagreb and



Johan Cruyff (right) scores for Ajax against Liverpool goalkeeper Tommy Lawrence. (Green.)

Vojvodina. The pause position was that Sarajevo—one defeat in 15 matches and with a total of 24 points, headed the table with Partizan and Dynamo Zagreb in second and third places with 20 points. Then come Zeljeznicar with 18 points and three clubs each with 17 points—Radnicki Nis, Vojvodina and Red Star. Vojvodina are the reigning champions and they are still carrying the banner for Yugoslavia in the Champions' Cup.

Edge

They were indeed responsible for the result that, by my reckoning, just gets the edge over Ajax's aggregate victory over Liverpool as the top achievement of the competition to date this season. Vojvodina's opponents were the Spanish champions, Atletico Madrid, and the first leg went to the Yugoslav club by three goals to one—not enough margin for an aggregate victory but, in the event, enough for a play-off after Atletico had won the second leg by two goals to nil. But the play-off was also staged in Madrid — a circumstance that suggested ultimate victory for Atletico. When the Spanish club, through Adelardo and then Collar, were two goals up after only five minutes' play the result appeared a foregone conclusion — except, apparently, to the Yugoslavs. Exactly half-way through the opening period, centre-forward Takac reduced the arrears, and the only goal of the second half was scored by their defender Radovic. So to extra time and, in the 102nd minute of the match, to the only goal scored in extra time—by Takac. Vojvodina owe much in their progress to the Quarter-Finals to the fair-haired, 26-year-old Takac—he was the scorer of the only goal in the two legs of the First Round tie against Admira, the Austrian champions, but the Yugoslav club will have to do battle with Glasgow Celtic in March without Takac, who has signed for the French club, Rennes.

Spain, despite the dismissal of Atletico Madrid, still have an interest in all three competitions with Zaragoza in the Cup-Winners' Cup, Valencia in the Fairs' Cup, and the holders Real Madrid in the Champions' Cup, but four Spanish clubs have already been knocked out of European club competitions this season. Atletico Madrid as mentioned above and, in the Fairs' Cup, Seville, Atletico Bilbao and, most surprisingly, the holders Barcelona—currently second to Real Madrid in the Spanish League table.

The proud victors over Barcelona with outright victories in both legs were Dundee United and their success underlines the fact that, at the moment, Scotland have fared the best of any country in European competitions this season. They join Spain as the only countries with a remaining interest in all three competitions and they go one better than Spain with two (Dundee United and Kilmarnock) clubs still in the Fairs' Cup compared with Spain's one. Moreover, Kilmarnock are the first club, after their aggregate win in extra time over La Gantoise of Belgium, to reach a place in the last eight of the Fairs' Cup.

Same number

One other country, Italy, have the same number of clubs (four) still interested in the competitions and, again like Scotland, have had only one "faller" to date. But there the comparison ends with Italy's four clubs including three in the Fairs' Cup. Additionally Scotland's sole eliminated club, Dunfermline, were only beaten by the rule that, when the aggregated scores are level, gives double weighting to goals scored away from home.

Scotland's success offsets the disappointments suffered by English fans this season. It is true that three out of five Football League clubs that started in the competitions remain — Leeds, Burnley and WBA—but all are in the Fairs' Cup. Northern Ireland with Linfield amongst the last eight in the Champions' Cup can smile a little that their interest in the major competitions remains when England's has ended!

In the current national League tables most of this season's Champions' Cup entrants are in good positions to challenge for renewed entry next time. Anderlecht (Belgium), Linfield (N. Ireland), Olympiakos (Greece), Inter-Milan (Italy), Ajax (Netherlands), Celtic (Scotland) and Besiktas (Turkey) all head their tables as I write. Liverpool (England), Nantes (France), Gornik (Poland) and Zurich (Switzerland) are in second place and Dukla Prague (Czechoslovakia) in third place. Others, however, are struggling—Petrolul Ploesti, who pushed Liverpool to a play-off you will probably remember, are in the bottom half of the Rumanian table but their European club engagements and a busy period for the Rumanian national team combined to give an unreal picture at the pause when all clubs should have played 13 matches but two (Petrolul and Farul) had played only 11 and Rapid and Steaua only 12. Since only five points separate the top 10 clubs (in a league of only 15) anything can happen before the end of that championship season. In Spain, Atletico Madrid are well down and, around the half-way stage, trail 10 points behind the leaders Real: in Austria, last season's surprise champions, Admira, are about half-way in the table and six points behind the leaders, the provincials Innsbruck. Innsbruck, with 20 points from 13 matches, are one point ahead of Rapid who have revived Austrian hopes, dim in recent seasons, by reaching the last eight in the Cup-Winners' Cup.

BOOK REVIEW

by STUART SHAW

ONE of the finest record books to come on to the market is "The AB-Z of World Football" by Maurice Golesworthy and Roger Macdonald (Pelham Books, 37/6d.).

It gives a comprehensive directory of all the League clubs in England and Scotland complete with honours as well as the leading ones in the rest of the world including Real Madrid, Santos, Independiente, etc.

Outstanding players through the years associated with various clubs are mentioned in detailed fashion as well as outstanding teams of a certain era.

Above all the easy-to-find information under the name of the club makes this not only the most exhaustive work of its kind but also one of the easiest upon which to refer.

Though the price may be outside the normal range of easy purchase, it is well worth saving up to buy it. It is so compiled in chronological order that its value will be everlasting as subsequent events can be tacked on at the end of the data given.

Some of Australia's top brass including (left) Frank Parsons, president of the NSW Federation, Jim Bayutti (third left), the leading light in the Australian and Oceania Federations and Aulden Brown (standing right) NSW secretary. (A.D.I.)

Relations strained after clash

AUSTRALIAN NEWS from Andrew Dettre

JOSEF MASOPUST made a few guest appearances in Australia this month, in conjunction with the visit of Sparta Prague. Actually, Masopust played against Sparta in local teams. His trip is arranged by the Czech Embassy in Canberra which will also stage a Czechoslovak sporting exhibition to coincide with the tour.

Sparta, one of the great names in Czech soccer, will be the first of at least three European teams to appear in Australia during 1967. In May Manchester United will play eight matches in all States and a few weeks later the full Scotland team will arrive for a series of games. Manchester's contract stipulates that they bring all their stars—Law, Charlton, Best, Stiles, Herd, etc.—*plus* their world-famous manager, Matt Busby.

During last month FIFA chief Sir Stanley Rous spent five days in Sydney, on his way to Bangkok for the Asian Games.

Sir Stanley may also be asked to arbitrate in a local dispute which involves one of the executives of the ASF who, representing the State of Victoria, launched a bitter attack against the national body, of which he was until recently vice-president.

Dispute

The dispute arose from the Hakoah v. Hellas Australia Cup semi-final, reported in these columns last month. Following the riot in Melbourne's Olympic Park where thousands of Hellas fans invaded the ground and beat the referee and one linesman, Hakoah, 3-1 leaders with 15 minutes to go, were awarded the match. Hellas were also fined $1,000 and placed on a bond for next year's Cup.

Claiming that as the match was an Australia Cup-tie and not their home fixture, Hellas now threaten to sue the ASF unless the fine and the ban are revoked.

This episode was all too familiar in Australian soccer where many nationalities make up the various leagues. All important league matches take on the characteristics of vital European Cup games with one basic difference: here the supporters of *both* teams are present in full.

Since this riotous match, relations between Sydney and Melbourne have been strained to the limit. These two major cities of Australia have been feuding for 100 years over every possible subject under the sun and some Sydney cynics often claim that the only way to end this nonsense is to invade Melbourne and occupy it. Now, this unfriendly rivalry clearly exists also in sport, notably soccer, where each city claims superiority. Things got to the stage when a planned interstate match between NSW (Sydney) and Victoria (Melbourne) was quickly called off in anger, both parties calling the other "impossible" to deal with.

This feud has none of the hallmarks of a healthy rivalry and is greatly damaging to soccer's development in Australia. And until they can resolve their differences—most of them indescribably petty—soccer will remain the loser.

On club level the off-season is unusually eventful. The first bombshell exploded when APIA's coach, Joe Marston, handed in his resignation. APIA this year won the Sydney Federation and Ampol Cups, the league championship and then the Australia Cup—just about everything that can be won. Yet former Preston North End pivot Marston decided to quit and join Second Division club Western Suburbs mainly because his job offers him a new challenge. Probably it offers more than that: the very affluent Western Suburbs, with their own club premises stacked with poker machines, may make Marston a full-time manager-secretary with a lucrative salary. APIA's new coach may be either former Real Madrid goalkeeper, Audato Iglesias, who until recently kept goal for APIA, or ex-coach Gyula Polgar, a member of the Hungarian World Cup finalist team in 1938.

Successful

St. George-Budapest, one of the most successful Sydney clubs, has just brought out from London former Chelsea and Under-23 England player, David Cliss, who should be an asset to Sydney soccer. Hakoah are hoping to get a young Jewish player from Luton Town and their coach, Tiko Jelisavcic, now on a holiday in Yugoslavia, has also been instructed to "look around" for fresh talent in his native country which, it seems, is letting everybody go without restrictions.

In Melbourne the first shock of the "silly season" has been the sacking of Duncan McKay, the former Celtic star, as player-coach of Croatia. McKay, however, is likely to stay on as a player and work under new coach Jim Adams.

TROPHIES ARE FASHIONABLE

by Norman D. Reich

SPOTLIGHT ON AFRICA

Zambia 5 Kenya 4
Zambia 0 Kenya 1
Zambia 2 Kenya 1
Kenya 0 Uganda 0
Kenya 3 Zanzibar 1
Tanganyika 4 Zanzibar 0
Uganda 3 Tanganyika 0
Kenya 3 Tanganyika 2
Uganda 0 Zanzibar 0
Uganda 1 Kenya 2
Mauritius 1 Tanzania 1
Tanzania 1 Mauritius 0
Nigeria 3 Congo-Kinshasa 2

SOUTH America has its Lipton Cup and its Carlos Dittborn for competition between rival countries. Similar trophies are becoming the fashion in Africa, although there are often three participants.

The B.A.T. Cup is competed for annually by Zambia and Kenya in Zambia. Last season, Zambia narrowly beat Kenya over the three matches to become the first holders. The three 1966 games produced just as hard-fought football, with Zambia just retaining the cup on a 7-6 aggregate.

Zambia won the first match by the odd goal in nine, withstanding a late Kenya rally. Kenya made it all square by scoring the only goal of the second match, so all depended on the third game, at the City Stadium in Lusaka.

Kenya attacked strongly in the early minutes and all but scored when the Zambia goalkeeper, Mwansa, was caught completely out of position. The Kenya forward line, swiftly turning defence into attack, peppered the Zambia goal and scored in the 12th minute. From a corner, Ouma leapt higher than the rest to head home a splendidly-spectacular goal.

Zambia's forwards were right off beam and it took efforts like that of kicking off the line by full-back Ngungu to keep them in the game.

Then quite suddenly, Zambia were level. In the 34th minute, Chifita guided the ball through to Kapengwe, who swooped in to score from the left.

The game leapt to life in the second half and Zambia soon grabbed the lead, Kapengwe again doing the scoring. Thereafter, instead of proceeding to an exciting climax, play teetered towards a shambles, and referee Odaga must take a large share of the blame. It seems that the game all over the world is suffering from the referee malady at the moment, and Africa is no exception.

Poor refereeing was again the big complaint at the Gossage Cup matches, this year played in Zanzibar. These games make up the East African Championship.

Tanganyika won the title in 1965 and 1964. But for the 1966 tournament, her preparation was poor and her methods completely outdated. She relied on bustling kick-and-rush soccer that came to nought. Only against Zanzibar, when she did introduce some of the subtlety seen in her play at the previous two championships, did she achieve anything notable.

Zanzibar are still very much the minnows of these four. Again, as in so many previous years, Zanzibar relied heavily on a determined defence that once more was found to be not quite determined enough. In the last match of the championship, the draw with Uganda, the defence did win a point that finally decided that Kenya would win the Gossage Cup for the first time since 1963.

Kenya were undoubtedly the best team in the tournament. Ably marshalled by their experienced captain, Joseph Okeyo, they produced some of the most attractive football of the week. Key man in the Kenya revival is FA coach, Jack Gibbons, who has welded 11 individuals into a compact team. In inside-left Ouma and centre-forward Bondo, Kenya had the leading goal-scorers.

The final table for the tournament was:

	P	W	D	L	F-A	P
Kenya	3	2	1	0	6-3	5
Uganda	3	1	2	0	3-0	4
Tanganyika	3	1	0	2	6-6	2
Zanzibar	3	0	1	2	1-7	1

The 1966 Gossage Cup competition was the last of this old African soccer tournament—one of the most historical on the continent. It is to be replaced with the East African Challenge Trophy in 1967. There are plans for expansion, with invitations to Zambia and Malawi to take part in 1968.

The triumphant Kenya side had two matches within a week of their return to Nairobi. In Mombasa, a Mombasa Invitation XI, strengthened by several members of the international side, held the cup holders to a 3-3 draw. The following week-end they were up in Kampala for the Independence Day game with Uganda.

It was the fourth meeting of these two in 1966. Kenya again emerged convincing winners. Karyhikwila, the Uganda full-back, scored into his own goal to give Kenya the lead in the 15th minute. Uganda's most creative forward, Bunyenyezi, snapped in the equaliser on the half-hour and then Bondo scored Kenya's winner in the 55th minute. Kenya attacked incessantly after that, always in command, and it took the gymnastic efforts of Uganda's goalkeeper, Masajage, now rated one of the best in Africa, to prevent a further score.

Jose Decker, the FIFA coach from Ecuador who was in charge of the Uganda national side, has been relieved of his services. Alan Rogers was loaned to the Uganda FA for the Gossage Cup and his preparation of the Cup party had a great deal to do with Uganda finishing runners-up to Kenya. He left Africa for England soon after returning from Zanzibar. Among his observations on African football was one that underlined the views of many who had worked in African football: "No one seems to understand the off-side law." Off-side play has often created dull, unattractive soccer here simply because this gambit is being exploited under the unwary eye of inexperienced referees. The off-side trap is destroying much of Africa's football, which thrives on natural ball-playing talents and swift wing-towing movements.

Uganda are now scouting around for a replacement for Rogers. They now realise the importance of a national coach to the success of the national side.

The Africa Cup tournament is already well under way. The finals are to take place in Addis Ababa. Tanzania qualified for one of the places in the play-off series by beating Mauritius over two legs. The first game was played in the King George VI Stadium in Port Louis. After a goalless first half, Tanzania took the lead only for Mauritius to equalise shortly before the end. The second leg in Dar-es-Salaam was a scrappy, hard-fought match with Tanzania netting the vital goal in the 67th minute.

At the time of writing, the Congo-Kinshasa international side had only played one match in their tour of Nigeria—the international in Lagos. The Congolese side were on top for most of the match, leading through the first goal scored by right-half Mayama in the ninth minute and then through another by outside-left Mokili after the Nigerian inside-left, Olowo Oshodi, had equalised. Yet, in a flurry of scoring ten minutes from the end, Oshodi equalised again and then the Nigerian captain, Godwin Achebe, stroked the winner in from the penalty spot to give Nigeria its first international victory in Lagos in three years.

The other Congolese side, Congo-Brazzaville, are currently touring Red China. Their first match drew 30,000 spectators to the Shanghai Stadium. After being level at 1-1 at half-time, the visitors netted twice in the second half to win 3-1.

It is very likely that Russia will tour Africa next year. The tour is being arranged by the Football Association of Zambia. Russia did indicate that they were keen to make the trip in December, but that would coincide with the Zambian close-season.

In Zambia, Mufulira Wanderers won the League Championship for the third time on the trot. Rhokana United, second from the bottom in 1965, improved to take the runners-up spot in 1966.

The Zambia Castle Cup competition again proceeded to a splendid climax. Mufulira Wanderers, led by Zoom Ndhlovu, beat Roan United in a ding-dong semi-final 4-3, while Broken Hill Warriors shocked Rhokana United 2-1 to clinch the other final berth. The final was typical of so many finals played all over the world—hard, tough and fast. Wanderers were twice behind, and only just forced 30 minutes of extra time with a goal minutes from the final whistle. Two goals in extra time brought the cup back to Mufulira.

In the Heinrich Cup, another of the season's top competitions, Roan United just beat Rhokana United 2-1 in the final to retain the Cup they won last year in an identical final.

In Rhodesia, St. Paul's, the North Zone premier division winners, beat the South Zone winners, Bulawayo Rovers, 3-2 at Glamis Stadium in the second leg of their play-off for the national title. The first match was drawn 2-2, so St. Paul's took the championship for the first time.

In Kenya, Nakuru lead the way, with the champions in 1964 and 1965, Feisal, trailing ever further behind.

SHOWPIECE OUTFIT

FOCUS ON VORWAERTS by JOHN GOODBODY

JUST as Fulham is washed by the Thames so Vorwaerts Football Club is situated next to the Berlin Wall. It is so close to the wall that it is virtually possible for the guards on the ugly watch-towers to peer over to watch a game in progress. East Berlin remains a city scarred by the effects of war—its museums still dented by shells and bullets, its people abject and dispirited. The buildings are alternately gaudily decorated or grey and shabby. But Vorwaerts, despite being on the edge of the Western World, is the showpiece club of the German Democratic Re-public.

League champions in 1958, 1960, 1962, 1965 and 1966, Cup-winners in 1954 and finalists in 1956, Vorwaerts have emerged as the most consistently powerful club side in the German Democratic Republic. The rise has been consistent since their promotion to the First Division in 1954. Their home ground is the Friedrich Ludwig Jahn Sports Park, Berlin, with a capacity of 30,000 and its floodlights making evening matches possible.

THE VORWAERTS PLAYERS

	Born	*Profession*
Goalkeepers		
Alfred Zulkowski ...	August 12, 1940 ...	Shipwright. Army officer.
Gerhard Weiss	September 25, 1941	Switchboard operator. NCO.
Full-backs		
Peter Kalinke	December 21, 1936	Officer in Army.
Horst Begerad	April 20, 1941 ...	Student of economics.
Werner Unger	May 4, 1933	Bricklayer. Army officer.
Hans Krampe	January 6, 1937 ...	Plumber. Army officer.
Half-backs		
Manfred Mueller ...	September 11, 1932	Fitter. Army officer.
Hans Kiupel	November 12, 1934	P.E. teacher. Army officer.
Gerhard Koerner ...	September 20, 1941	P.E. student. Army officer.
Forwards		
Rainer Nachtigall ...	April 27, 1941	Student of journalism and Army officer.
Juergen Noeldner ...	February 22, 1941	Student of Journalism and Army officer.
Gerhard Vogt	November 30, 1934	Moulder. Army officer.
Otto Fraessdorf	February 5, 1942...	Shipwright. Army officer.
Juergen Grossheim...	June 16, 1942	Toolmaker. Army officer.
Manfred Schuetze ...	April 19, 1943	Farmer. NCO.
Guenther Wirth ...	January 9, 1933 ...	Teacher. Army officer.
Juergen Piepenburg	June 10, 1941	P.E. student. Army officer.

A league match between Vorwaerts and Jena Carl Zeiss, who were European Cup-winners' Cup semi-finalists in 1962. Jena goalkeeper Flenize repulses a Vorwaerts attack assisted by half-back Heinz Marx (left). Duelling with Flenize in the air is Juergen Grossheim, while Horst Begerad watches. Coming up fast (far right) is Juergen Noeldner. (O.)

Vorwaerts Press Officer Ego Lemke told me: "We were founded as Vorwaerts Army Sports Klub but in January we changed to Vorwaerts Football Klub dispensing with our athletics, boxing and other sections and concentrating on football. The club is now purely a football one with eight teams. Our players work at their jobs during the day and train in the evening. Our players are skilled in various jobs from journalism to farming.

"For big matches we usually get a capacity crowd. When Manchester United came for their European Cup tie, we were packed out."

The inspiration of the Vorwaerts team is Juergen Noeldner, who is known as "the little Fritz Walter"—a comparison with the great West German forward who captained his country to their World Cup win in 1954. He was a member of his country's bronze-medal winning team in the 1964 Olympic Games in Tokyo.

Vorwaerts are technically the best team of G.D.R.—their technique is admirable but they have sometimes suffered in the past from a lack of bite. For a certain time they were rightly criticised on the grounds that their play would be destroyed by its own beauty. However, their fighting spirit and punch has now returned to the side and they now play in a "more rational way".

The club tends to use 4-3-3 for away matches and 4-2-4 for home games. Behind the back line is the pantherine Alfred Zulkowski, a player of wonderful reflexes. He represents the G.D.R. as does Peter Kalinke, the experienced 30-year-old full-back, who has had a hand in all of Vorwaerts' five national championship titles. Hans Krampe, Georg Kiupel, Gerhard Vogt and Werner Unger are the others who have shared in this.

Vorwaerts rely on their Youth teams—there are 35 of them—to furnish them with improving youngsters; Noeldner came into the first team in this way. The coaches of the team, Gunter Lammich (the chief coach), Karl-Heinz Spickenagel (the second coach) and Walter Kassbohm (the assistant trainer) scour the countryside for talent.

The coaches go into the army to search for players since Vorwaerts have always had such close connections with it.

EUROPEAN STATISTICS by ARTHUR ROTMIL

CHAMPIONS' CUP

Second Round—Second Leg

Anderlecht **1**
Mulder (59).
Dukla Prague **2**
Nedorost (42), Mraz (69).
Brussels. Att. 36,000. Ref. Ortiz de Mendibil (Spain).
Anderlecht: Trappeniers; Heylens, Hanon, Kialunda, Cornelis; Jurion, Devrindt; Bergholtz, Mulder, Van Himst, Puis.
Dukla: Viktor; Cmarada, Novak, Cadek, Taborsky; Geleta, Masopust; Strunc, Mraz, Nedorost, Vacenovsky.

Dukla retained their remarkable record of not having been beaten in 25 matches in Belgium since 1956.

(Dukla won 6-2 on aggregate—will meet Ajax Amsterdam).

Read Madrid **3**
Grosso (20), Veloso (34), Pirri (52).
1860 Munich **1**
Brunnenmeier (12).
Madrid. Att. 60,000. Ref. Babauczik (Austria).
Real: Betancort; Sanchis, De Felipe, Pachin; Pirri, Zoco; Veloso, Amancio, Grosso, Velazquez, Gento.
1860: Radenkovic; Patzke, Reich, Perusic, Steiner; Lutz, Zeiser; Brunnenmeier, Küppers, Grosser, Rebele.

The European champions, playing with superb confidence, recovered quickly from the shock of an early German goal and swept Munich out with some majestic football worthy of their reputation.

Real Madrid won 3-2 on aggregate—will meet Inter-Milan).

Vasas Budapest **0**
Inter-Milan **2**
Mazzola 2 (39, 66).
Budapest. Att. 76,000. Ref. Kreitlein (West Germany).
Vasas: Varga; Bakos, Mészöly, Berendi, Ihasz; Mathesz, Fister; Molnar, Puskas, Farkas, Korsos.
Inter: Sarti; Burgnich, Facchetti; Bedin, Guarneri, Picchi; Jair, Mazzola, Domenghini, Suarez, Corso.

Inter's boss, Herrera, decided against total defence, realising it could be suicidal, facing Europe's most formidable attack. Countering cleverly, the Italians triumphed with two brilliant goals from Mazzola.

(Inter won 4-1 on aggregate—will meet Real Madrid).

Górnik Zabrze **3**
Szoltysik (1), Pol 2 (26, 44).
CSKA Sofia **0**
Chorzów. Att. 30,000. Ref. Altimov (Russia).
Górnik: Kostka; Kowalski, Kuchta, Oslizlo, Olszówka; Olek, Szoltysik; Wilczek, Lubanski, Pol, Musialek.
CSKA: Jordanov; Vassilev, Rodolev, Marinchev, Gaganelov; Stankov, Peney; Marashchiev, Zanev, Yakimov, Nikidomov.

The first leg margin proved insurmountable in the end—yet the Poles came close to snatching the tie sensationally, by scoring three first-half goals, then their star veteran Pol missed a penalty!

(CSKA won 4-3 on aggregate—will meet Linfield Belfast).

Linfield **1**
Thomas (20).
Valerengen **1**
T. Larsen (82).
Belfast. Att. 12,000. Ref. Boogaerts (Holland).
Linfield: McFaul; Gilliland, Patterson; Gregg, Hatton, Leishman; Ferguson, Thomas, Pavis, Scot, Shields.
Valerengen: Sörlie; Mathiesen, Skoglie; T. Larsen, Syversen, Sörensen; Jacobssen, Knudsen, E. Larsen, Olsen, Eriksen.

Linfield—three up from the first leg—made Northern Irish history in reaching the quarter-finals, but this was a dismal performance in attack by both teams.

(Linfield won 5-2 on aggregate—will meet CSKA Sofia).

Celtic **3**
Johnstone (14), Chalmers (55), Lennox 78).
Nantes **1**
Georgin (37).
Glasgow: Att. 41,000. Ref. Boström (Sweden).
Celtic: Simpson; Gemmell, McNeill, Clark, O'Neil; Murdoch, Auld; Johnstone, Gallagher, Chalmers, Lennox.
Nantes: Castel; Le Chenadec, Budzinski, Robin, Grabowski; Kovacevic, Georgin; Blanchet, Simon, Magny, Michel.

Celtic proved too strong all round, but the French hit the woodwork twice and departed with the distinction of being the first side to score at Celtic Park, in a European Cup game, since 1962.

(Celtic won 6-2 on aggregate—will meet Vojvodina).

Liverpool **2**
Hunt 2 (55, 86).
Ajax Amsterdam **2**
Cruyff 2 (49, 71).
Liverpool. Att. 54,000. Ref. Kranvek (Czechoslovakia).
Liverpool: Lawrence; Lawler, Smith, Yeats, Stevenson; Milne, St. John; Callaghan, Hunt, Strong, Thompson.
Ajax: Bals; Hulshof, Pronk, Soetekouw, Van Duivenbode; Muller, Groot; Swart, Cruyff, Nuninga, Keizer.

Ajax ignored the fanatical crowd and brushed aside the hosts' desperate efforts to make up the leeway. Nineteen-year-old Johan Cruyff scored twice and only a late goal saved Liverpool's face.

(Ajax won 7-3 on aggregate — will meet Dukla Prague).

Atletico Madrid **2**
Luis (33 pen.), Adelardo (43).
Vojvodina **0**
Madrid. Att. 35,000. Ref. Callaghan (Wales).
Atletico: Rodri; Colo, Jayo, Rivilla; Glaria, Urtiaga; Garate, Luis, Mendoza, Adelardo, Collar.
Vojvodina: Pantelic; Aleksic, Radovic, Brzic, Nesticki; Sekeres, Takac; Savic, Radosav, Trivic, Pusibrc.

Spanish hopes were high when their champions stormed to a two-goal lead by half-time, but Vojvodina held out and their fine defensive work enabled them to force a play-off.

(Aggregate score 3-3 — play-off necessary).

Play-off

Atletico Madrid **2**
Collar 2 (3, 6).
Vojvodina **3**
Takac 2 (25, 102), Radovic (67). (after extra time).
Madrid. Att. 50,000. Ref. O'Neill (Ireland).
Atletico: Rodri; Rivilla, Griffa, Calleja; Glaria, Urtiaga; Ufarte, Garate, Mendoza, Adelardo, Collar.
Vojvodina: Pantelic; Aleksic, Radovic, Brzic, Nesticki; Sekeres, Takac; Savic, Sanic, Trivic, Pusibrc.

A sensational victory for the unfancied Yugoslavs who retaliated strongly after Atletico's explosive two-goal start and finally nailed the hosts in extra time, despite losing Trivic and Pusibrc who were sent off.

(Vojvodina won 6-5 on aggregate—will meet Celtic).

CUP-WINNERS' CUP

Second Round—Second Leg

Everton **1**
Brown (81).
Zaragoza **0**
Liverpool. Att. 56,000. Ref. Weyland (West Germany).
Everton: West; Wright, Labone, Wilson; Gabriel, Harvey; Scott, Ball, Young, Brown, Temple.
Zaragoza: Yarza; Gonzalez, Santamaria, Violeta, Reija; Isasi, Pais; Canario, Santos, Marcelino, Villa.

Zaragoza claimed their seventh British victim in the last two years of European competitions. Everton hammered away for most of the match, but their solitary goal was not enough.

(Zaragoza won 2-1 on aggregate—will meet Glasgow Rangers).

Rapid Vienna **1**
Flögl (48).
Spartak Moscow **0**
Vienna. At. 35,000. Ref. Kitabdjan (France).
Rapid: Pichler; Gebhardt, Ullmann; Hasil, Skocik, Fach; Fritsch, Starek, Bjerregaard, Flögl, Knez.
Spartak: Maslatschenko; Schitkus, Meschtscherjakov; Petrov, Dikarev. Yanikin; Logofet, Reingold, Ossianin, Bakatov, Khussainov.

Twenty-year-old Anton Fritsch laid on the victory goal for Rudi Flögl to shatter the Russians, whose best chance went begging when Logofet facing an empty net could only hit the bar.

(Rapid won 2-1 on aggregate—will meet Bayern Munich).

Slavia Sofia **2**
Tassev (42), Mishev (49).
Racing Strasbourg **0**
Sofia. Att. 20,000. Ref. Janics (Austria).
Slavia: Simeonov; Shalamanov, Petrov, Kostov, Alexiev; Davidov, Haralampiev; Tassev, Vrajev, Mishev, Vassiliev.
Racing: Schuth; Hauss, Merschel, Burkle, Sbaiz; Lazarus, Stieber; Munoz, Farias, Szepaniak, Hausser.

French hopes ended soon after the interval and though they attacked strongly, the Bulgarians resisted skilfully to prove slightly the better of two evenly matched sides.

(Slavia won 2-1 on aggregate—will meet Servette Geneva).

Sparta Rotterdam **1**
Lazeroms (74).
Servette Geneva **0**
Rotterdam. Att. 19,000. Ref. Burtenshaw (England).
Sparta: Doesburg; Ter Horst, Lazeroms, Eykenbroek, Benzon; Bosma, Kemper; Vermolen, Bosveld, Onsman, Bouman.
Servette: Barlie; Maffiolo, Piguet, Pazmandy, Mocellin; Martignago, Sundermann; Nemeth, Desbiolles, Makay, Schindelholz.

Servette's famous coach, Bela Guttmann, plotted a defensive battle to outwit the Dutch, who produced more effort than skill and eventually had only themselves to blame for losing the tie.

(Servette won 2-1 on aggregate—will meet Slavia Sofia).

Bayern Munich **3**
Brenninger (5), Ohlhauser (11), Müller (83).
Shamrock Rovers **2**
Gilbert (55), Tuohy (58).
Munich. Att. 11,000. Ref. Zecevic (Yugoslavia).
Bayern: Maier; Kupferschmidt, Beckenbauer, Schwarzenbeck, Olk; Roth, Koulmann; Nafziger, Müller, Ohlhauser, Brenninger.
Shamrock: Smyth; Keogh, Mulligan, Nolan, Courtney; Fullam, Dixon; O'Neill, Gilbert, Tuohy, Kearin.

The Germans eased off after their early goals but then found themselves struggling and even behind on aggregate (away goals counting double)—before Müller's late effort saw them safely through.

(Bayern won 4-3 on aggregate—will meet Rapid Vienna).

Borussia Dortmund **0**
Glasgow Rangers **0**
Dortmund. Att. 43,000. Ref. Rumentschev (Bulgaria).
Borussia: Wessel; Cyliax, Kurrat, Paul, Peehs; Sturm, Assauer; Libuda, Trimhold, Held, Emmerich.
Raagers: Martin; Johansen, Greig, McKinnon, Provan; Watson, D. Smith; Henderson, Forrest, A. Smith, Johnston.

A tremendous performance by Rangers who, despite losing Watson through injury by half-time, held on courageously to their slender lead which proved enough to put the holders out of the competition.

(Rangers won 2-1 on aggregate—will meet Zaragoza (Spain).

Sp. Braga **2**
Perrichon 2 (42, 83).
Vasas Györ **0**
Braga. Att. 25,000. Ref. Laroux (Belgium).
Braga: Armando; Juvenal, José-Manuel; Mario, Ribeiro, Coimbra; Albinho, Luciano, Perrichon, Adam, Estevao.
Vasas: Toth; Szaniel, Izsaki; Nell, Orban, Kiss; Stolcz, Varsanyi, Szalo, Somogyi, Keglovich.

The Portuguese pressed hard but their forwards missed additional chances, while on other occasions they were halted by Györ's efficient defence in which goalkeeper Toth and giant centre-half Orban (6 ft. 5 in.) were outstanding.

(Vasas Györ won 3-2 on aggregate—will meet Standard Liege).

Standard Liege **1**
Claessen (56).
Chemie Leipzig **0**
Liege. Att. 30,000. Ref. Adair (N. Ireland).
Standard: Nicolay; Jeck, Spronck, Raskin, Beurlet; Naumovic, Pilot; Semmeling, Claessen, Galic, Storme.
Chemie: Günther; Krause, Walter, Herzog, Hermann; Richter, Bauchspiess; Schmidt, Behla, Scherbarth, Lisiewicz.

By the narrowest of margins—their away goal counting double—the Belgians managed to win this tie in which they claimed most of the scoring chances.

(Aggregate score 2-2, but Standard won by 3-2 under away goals rule—will meet Vasas Györ).

CUP SHOCK IN BRAZIL

WORLD DIARY

by ROGER MACDONALD

IF Lincoln City were to win the English FA Cup next year I doubt if it would cause the consternation that Cruzeiro have brought in Brazil. This unknown club from the sleek, skyscraper city of Belo Horizonte, deep in the mountains of Minas Gerais, have deposed Santos, winners of the Brazilian Cup — the inter-state championship — for the last five years.

Nor, like a certain Yankee victory at Belo 17 years ago, was it in any way a fluke: Cruzeiro won on merit. Only one team even held them to a draw (1-1) on the way to the final, Gremio of Porto Alegre in the deep south. Cruzeiro eliminated the representatives of Rio Grande du Sul, Parana and Rio, even beating Palmeiras 1-0 on their own ground.

Gilmar was beaten five times in 35 minutes in the first leg of the final at Belo Horizonte, and hurt making a desperate attempt to stop the sixth goal by Tostao. "We were given the run around by a bunch of boys, as though we were a herd of stupid cows," he complained bitterly. Pelé was sent off, Ze Carlos put through his own goal, and only Toninho, who scored twice in reply, salvaged a little of Santos's pride. In the return, Lula, their trainer, dropped Mauro, Pepe and Dorval; but though Santos led 2-0, they were still beaten 3-2.

Cruzeiro, founded in 1922, needed nearly 40 years to take a firm stride out of the wilderness. In 1961 they elected a new president, Felicio Brandi, who travelled far and wide, like the Pied Piper of Hamlin, persuading tiny clubs to send their local stars for a trial. His efforts enabled Cruzeiro to supplant Atletico Horizonte as the leading club in the city.

Only two of their players came from League clubs — Evaldo Cruz and Procopio. Evaldo, 21, was discarded by Fluminense as being too unstable, a weakness he has largely eliminated at Belo Horizonte; he plays centre-forward, dribbles beautifully, and is very fast. Procopio, 27, the stopper centre-half, was persuaded to join the club by his brother-in-law, full-back William. He began as a professional wrestler, and only turned to soccer as an after-thought. Sao Paulo FC, Fluminense and Palmeiras all let him go; but Cruzeiro have found his immense frame and instant reflexes of great value.

William, a calm, careful centre-back, and an excellent header of the ball, is aged 33, but the average age of the team is ten years younger. Four of the players have strong claims for an extended trial in the international team — Piazza, Dirceu Lopes, Natal Boroni and Tostao.

Piazza, 23, captains the side from deep in defence, covering great expanses of ground like a reincarnation of Zito. His midfield partner, Dirceu Lopes, just 20, sells a marvellous dummy, and possesses a murderous left-foot shot; he scored a hat-trick in Cruzeiro's 6-2 victory over Santos. Natal, a year older, is fast and decisive on the right wing, difficult to shake off the ball.

But Tostao, another 20-year-old, scorer of Brazil's solitary goal against Hungary in the World Cup, is the prodigy who raises the level of Cruzeiro's game. Already solicited to lend his name to countless advertising projects, he has the first touches of a Pelé — he is unpredictable, wondrously accurate, supreme at improvisation. Señor Brandi said, half seriously, that he would rather sell his own grandmother.

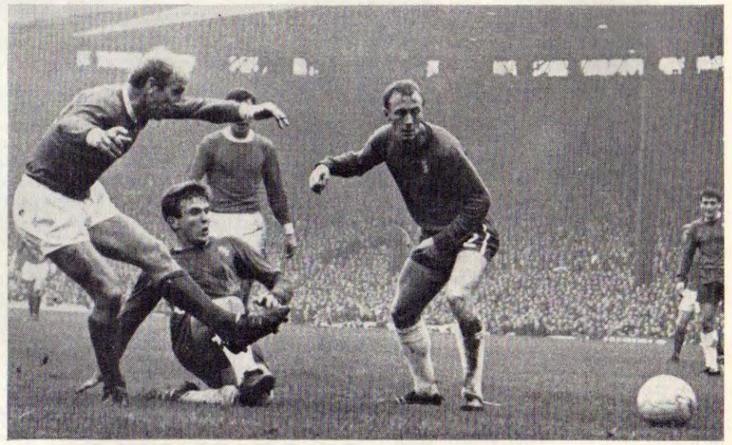
The secret of Cruzeiro's success is not talent alone. They use an unfamiliar currency in Brazilian football — great speed and dedicated simplicity. The reason old men like Djalma Santos could live in League football, even win a World Cup place, was the lethargic, elaborate style so prevalent in the Rio and Sao Paulo Leagues. Cruzeiro, playing for their future, have turned on the heat — and if they are the modern David, my sympathies are with Goliath.

LULA SACKED

SANTOS'S failure to qualify for the Liberation (South American Club) Cup — which Brazil apparently may re-enter with one club this year — has cost Lula his job after 12 seasons in command. Zito, his assistant, takes over during the interregnum, but the ultimate successor may be Tim, of Fluminense. Tim, real name Elba de Padua Lima, played for Brazil in the 1938 World Cup, where he showed an exhaustive repertoire of tricks and india-rubber gyrations. Brazil made the mistake of resting him for the final, and Italy made sure they did not reach it. Whoever takes over will have nearly £200,000 to spend on new players next season. Santos's first requirement is a new goalkeeper, for Gilmar says he will retire at the end of the year. Their only approach so far is to Uruguayan half-back Roberto Matosas, at present with River Plate.

Another champion club lost their crown a few hundred miles south. Flamengo, Rio League winners in 1965, were beaten 3-0 by Bangu in the decisive match at Maracana. Or, to be strictly accurate, in a 70-minute game which ended in a riot and nine players departing for an early shower. A crowd of 143,978, predominantly Flamengo supporters, watched Bangu monopolise the play in a temperature of 104 degrees in the shade. Bangu needed only to draw, but they showed no indication to compromise, and scored twice in the first half. Flamengo 'keeper, Valdomiro, could only half-stop a shot by Ocinae, and had no chance with a ferocious drive by outside-left Aladim. But the third goal, scored by Paulo Borges in the second half, looked palpably offside. Paulo Henrique of Flamengo came to blows with Ladeira about it, Almir added his boot to the dispute, and immediately the argument degenerated into a conflagration of players, officials, photographers and spectators. The referee, de Morais, decided that the only way to end the battle was to send off most of the combatants; he reached a total of nine, but one of them, Ladeira, had meanwhile been injured in the fracas and had to be carried off on a stretcher. When sanity was restored, Bangu's president, Castor de Andrade, paraded round the stadium in triumph; a good time, as they say, was had by all.

But pounds mean almost as much as points in Brazil. The five teams who take part in the lucrative, end-of-season Gomez Pedrosa Tournament are chosen on receipts not League positions. Botafogo and America were practically level in cash before the last match, so, to make sure of fifth place, Botafogo bought up dozens of unsold seats in their own stand....



European Footballer of the Year, Bobby Charlton, rifles a shot for goal while representing Manchester Utd. against Chelsea, whose players pictured are John Hollins (making the tackle) and Joe Kirkup. (M.P.I.)

WORLD DIARY . . . WORLD DIARY . . . WORLD DIARY . . .

THEN THERE WERE . . .

LIKE the ten green bottles, the World Cup managers are being whittled down one by one. At the last count, only Ramsey (England), Schön (West Germany) and Re Hyun (North Korea) were absolutely certain of reappearing for the first match in the New Year. Ignacio Trelles keeps his official post in Mexico, but may not be content to share responsibility with Antonio Carbajal, goalkeeper turned national coach. Carbajal, who was appointed last month, is tremendously popular; he will doubtless put his 18 years' experience of international football to good use.

While Sir Alf deserves our heartiest congratulations, Colonel Myung Re Hyun might win a medal himself after North Korea's impressive performance in the GANEFO games in Cambodia. Without five of their World Cup team (off, presumably, on a spree of wine, women and song denied them for three years), the Koreans beat Cambodia 2-0, the Yemen 14-0, Lebanon 5-1 and Communist China 2-1 in the final watched by 150,000. FIFA are supposed to have sent them a rocket for taking part in an unofficial tournament, but, knowing the state of communications to Phnom Phenh, it was probably only a smoke-signal.

IN ALL FAIRNESS

BOBBY CHARLTON, to be brutally frank, must consider himself very lucky to be European Footballer of the Year. No one doubts his sportsmanship or his world class, but he would not have won the award if England had not previously won the World Cup. Most of the journalists who voted for Europe's top five players frankly admitted that they felt bound to favour a member of the winning team — the first European World Champions, after all, since the player award was instituted in 1956.

Charlton's great fault is inconsistency: he has as many bad games as good, and even the superlative ones are balanced by others in which nothing goes right. His contribution to the World Cup was flair, a quality no other Englishman possessed. His 30-yard goal against Mexico lifted England out of a rut; his performance against Portugal put England in the final. But he gave an indifferent display in the four other matches.

Taking such a basis for the award to its logical conclusion, colleague Brian Glanville plumped for Alan Ball — who, undeniably, turned the fine balance of the final with his tireless running and complete domination of Schnellinger. He placed Bobby Moore second, clearly the most consistent Englishman; and Geoff Hurst, the revelation of 1966, fourth behind Eusebio.

ADELARDO (Atletico Madrid). (M.P.I.)

That Hurst should not be worth a mention by any other critic seemed quite inexplicable. Banks, too, deserved better than one fourth place from Evangelos Fountoukidis of Greece ... though he did receive an honourable mention from Raymond Pittet of Switzerland, who said "he was perhaps the best England player in the World Cup".

But Monsieur Pittet blotted his copybook by awarding his first place to Torres — a *tour de force* for Portugal, possibly, but never in world class. Just a touch of chauvinism, too, came from Hans Blickensdorfer (Schulz, West Germany, fifth); Aldo Bardelli (Mazzola, Italy, fourth); Dermot Ashmore (Dunne, Northern Ireland, fifth); Laszlo Lukacs (Albert, Hungary, first).

If an Irishman is worth a place, it is George Best, surely the outstanding winger of 1966. It was he, and not Charlton, who made possible Manchester United's destruction of Benfica in Lisbon.

I still feel that Franz Beckenbauer made a larger contribution to both club and country over the whole year; he finished third this time, but the gold ball may not elude him for long.

	Placings (22 voters)					
Player	*1*	*2*	*3*	*4*	*5*	Pts.
Charlton (Man. Utd. & England)	12	3	1	3	–	81
Eusebio (Benfica & Portugal)	5	10	5	–	–	80
Beckenbauer (Bayern Munich & W. Ger.)	–	5	10	2	5	59
Moore (West Ham & England)	2	3	1	2	2	31
Albert (Ferencvaros & Hungary)	1	1	1	4	3	23

6th: Bene (Ujpest & Hungary) 8 pts.

TWO SENT OFF

ANTONIO RATTIN was eulogised in another English sports magazine last month ("not a dirty player until he sees opponents playing that way"). What a pity he should spoil his blameless record for 1966 by being sent off in the last League match of the season against Velez Sarsfield. Another of the Wembley angels, San Lorenzo's Albrecht, also left the field at the request of the referee in a friendly match organised for the benefit of Argentina's soccer press. He was suspended for four League games.

Racing duly romped away with the Argentinian championship, but in Uruguay Nacional were hard-pressed by Penarol, who beat them 1-0 in the season's penultimate match to finish only two points behind. The battle of goalkeepers — Sosa versus Mazurkieviez — ended in Sosa's favour. In 16 matches (he missed the last two through injury) he conceded just three goals.

CAR ACCIDENTS

TWO Belgian goalkeepers survived car accidents recently, but one suffered serious injuries. Smolders of Beerschot is out for two months with broken ribs and concussion: Kuhlmann of Malines received only scratches, despite completely wrecking his car in a collision. Over the border Henri Guerin showed more skill at the wheel than he did as French team manager. Travelling from Saint-Malo to Rennes, he avoided another car with split-second reactions, spun round twice, and ended up resting gently against a telegraph pole.

FULL STORY

THE death of 25-year-old Luciano, mentioned briefly last month, seemed doubly tragic when the full circumstances came to light. The apparatus was made by Whirlpool Jacuzzi, an American firm, who have provided similar and perfectly safe equipment for various Portuguese hotels. But this was a new system of hydromassage, installed as an experiment. It worked effectively for 20 minutes in Benfica's swimming pool, when the players suddenly began to receive fierce electric shocks. Luciano, who was completely immersed in the water, gave a fierce cry of pain and collapsed, followed by two reserves, Carmo Pais and Malta da Silva. Jaime Graca, the electrician turned footballer, managed to struggle out and turn off the current, but not before several other players had received serious burns on their bodies. Malta went to hospital in an ambulance; but he and Pais quickly recovered. But Luciano could not be revived.

At Benfica, they called him Germano II, as he possessed the same calm and confidence. He came to prominence in his home town of Olhao, in the Algarve, during the 1962–63 season, as a centre-half. Benfica signed him, and he gained a "B" cap against Spain while still a reserve. Lajos Czeizler, then Benfica's manager, successfully

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BRIAN GLANVILLE on current "method topics"

Fair assessment—please

WHEN Mr. Tony Wood, the Chairman of Nottingham Forest, recently deplored England's World Cup success on the grounds that it encouraged negative football, the ensuing debate quickly assumed an Alice in Wonderland aspect. Writing in that curious anachronism, "The Football League Review", with its outmoded typography, its fragmentary, gossipy approach, and its still more outdated points of view, Mr. Wood told us that English football has nothing to learn from the rest of the world. This was a surprise to a great many of us, who believed that we had won the World Cup precisely because we *had* learned from the rest of the world.

"We must", pursued Mr. Wood, "escape from 4-3-3 somehow. The 4-2-4 system is still a defensively based idea, but it does allow more attacking scope, even for a poorly equipped team." One might say, in passing, that these views appeared very strange. A poorly equipped team is the very last one which ought to be playing 4-2-4, which depends to such an enormous extent on the capacity of its two midfield players.

ILLOGICAL

Still, it would be unfair and illogical to reject everything Mr. Wood had to say. He is perfectly right when he condemns 4-2-4 and 4-3-3 as essentially defensive methods; but both, after all, grew out of the third-back game. The trouble is that Mr. Wood, in his apparent insularity, ignores this fact, which enables him to ignore its corollary: that the third-back game began ... in England. "We must remember", he says, instead, "that these ideas originated on foreign fields. We are copying systems from a sphere of football where crowds have dropped even more alarmingly than in England."

And so to the reaction. Brian James of the *Daily Mail*, one of the more thoughtful and responsible of English football writers, said, "The difference between adventure and caution in soccer is one of attitude, not of system". Don Revie of Leeds, that dour and often destructive team, said it was all unfair to England, who couldn't be blamed either for 4-3-3 or for cautious football. Ron Greenwood, the lively and original manager of West Ham, said, "Ability to make and score goals depends on technique and the observation of players, not how you position the players. I would have thought that the whole point about England was that they won the World Cup playing the same sort of football taught and used by our best clubs."

This, in parenthesis, was kind of Greenwood, whose West Ham United sides, unlike England, to whose success West Ham men made such a great contribution, play with two genuine wingers. England's largely wingless 4-3-3 tactics were something quite special which, if they really were copied by the majority of our teams, would indeed have the most deplorable effect on the game. Modern attacking football without wing play leads inevitably to sterility. It was Alan Ball's marvellous performance in the World Cup Final *as a winger* which really won England the day.

But the argument that adventurous football is a matter of attitude rather than tactics just won't do.

If, out of a team of eleven men, your tactics commit eight of them primarily to defence and only three of them primarily to attack, you can scarcely claim that attack is uppermost in your mind; and 4-3-3 does precisely that. By the same token, 4-2-4 gives you four men dedicated primarily to attack, and to this extent is marginally more adventurous.

Now, you can, if you are defending the adventurous qualities of 4-2-4, 4-3-3 and even that monstrous abomination, *catenaccio*, maintain that a full-back can attack as well as defend (Facchetti, Cohen), that a midfield link man is a creator, rather than a destroyer, and you will have a case. Indeed, it would be impossible for 4-3-3 and *catenaccio* to exist as offensive systems at all, were the three strikers left wholly to their own devices; full-backs have to "overlap" down the wing, link-men to burst forward into attack. But to pretend that attack is uppermost in your mind when you deploy such strategies would be ridiculous.

Attack, indeed, hasn't been uppermost in anybody's mind since the mid-1920s, when Arsenal developed the third-back game, and everybody else copied them. Its origins are worth recalling. The change in the offside law of 1925, making it necessary for a player to have only two opponents between him and the goal line instead of three, tipped the balance briefly but sharply towards attackers. Herbert Chapman and his captain, Charlie Buchan, tipped it back again by withdrawing the attacking centre-half to play exclusively as a defender, policing the centre-forward. The full-backs went out on the flanks to mark the wingers, the wing-halves came into the centre to be midfield men, the inside-forwards withdrew behind a line of three strikers, and the W formation was born.

For Arsenal, the W formation meant counter-attack; indeed, as their famous outside-left Cliff Bastin has confessed, they were worried when they found they had too much of the play. Today, the tendency is more marked than ever, above all in that most professional of all professional leagues, the Italian Championship. There, under the high priestship of Inter, the ugly religion of *catenaccio* rules supreme, stifling the talents of players who have long been among the most naturally gifted in the world (if Italian football has drawn heavily on Argentinian stars, what would Argentinian football ever have been, without the Italian immigration?).

Still, one doesn't have to go any farther than Chelsea to see just how dreary football can become when a team relies so heavily on counter-punching. In

ZAGALO (Brazil). (M.I.)

the 1952 Olympic Games, Ingemar Johansson, later heavyweight champion of the world, was disqualified in his fight against the American representative. In Sweden, he was accused of cowardice; a more tolerant and possibly a more accurate view of the occasion was that two counter-punchers met, and produced a stalemate. So it is in football; as we saw when England played Uruguay last July, as we see week after week when Chelsea play at home, time after time when Inter are involved.

Mr. Wood and his kind are looking back to a golden age which existed, if at all, only till 1925. One can sympathise with them; football today is slowly—indeed, not so slowly—strangling itself, but its strangulation is implicit in what Chapman began in the 'twenties and 'thirties. *Catenaccio*, with its sweeper-up playing behind a line of four backs, its absolute reliance on the breakaway, is simply the third-back game brought to its nasty, logical conclusion. The only wonder is that it took so very long to get there. Italy, indeed, were very slow to appreciate what Britain was doing; the definitive article explaining the W formation, written by that great centre-half and present Sampdoria manager Fulvio Bernardini in the *Corriere Dello Sport*, appeared as late as 1939—as a sequel to the *third* match played by a third-back English team against Italy since 1933.

Brazil developed 4-2-4 because they realised their diagonal system of covering was ineffective and had probably lost them the 1950 World Cup, against Uruguay, but knew equally that they could not master the third-back game. 4-3-3 is simply a more cautious version of 4-2-4—developed, again, by Brazil, when they lost Pelé during the 1962 World Cup and used the tireless Zagalo as a left-wing link man with ultimate success.

I don't know what we can do to halt the Gadarene tactical progress of modern football. But to do anything at all, we had better start by seeing things as they are—and have been.

World Diary

● *Continued from page* 21

switched him to right-back, as he could hardly drop Germano. Luciano had just settled down in the first team when he hurt a knee and required an operation. The bones did not knit properly, so it had to be repeated. A season later Luciano returned to full training, and promptly tore some muscles in his left foot. He completed a successful rehabilitation in time for 1966–67, but lost his place through further injury in the third match against Atletico Club de Portugal. Then, on Monday, December 5, came the last chapter in a history of misfortune.

FRESH CRISIS

ATLETICO MADRID'S defeat at the hands of Vojvodina in the European Cup, 3-2 in a play-off after extra time, seems certain to precipitate a fresh financial crisis for the reigning champions of Spain. For Atletico are heavily in debt, both to their president, Vicente Calderon, and to the government. One stand in their new stadium, Manzanares, is still unfinished, and the contractors refuse to lift a pick until they receive a few million more pesetas.

Their coach, Otto Gloria, gloomily explained Atletico's ill-luck and unhappy predicament. "We would beat Vojvodina nine times out of ten," he said, "ten out of ten with a full team. We have had eleven players, not the same eleven, out of action each week since the start of the season. Adelardo, for example, hurt his head in the World Cup against the Germans: he has played only three times since then. Mendoza, who's got a leg injury, has turned out in just four games.

"I want to buy some young players, but Señor Calderon says we've got to keep this *squadra* until the end of the 1967–68 season. But it simply isn't possible, our team is too old. Collar and Rivilla are 32, Griffa and Mendoza 30 ... we need a team around 20 to 23.

"I don't know whether I'll stay ... I've received good offers from Vasco da Gama and Marseille. Though I like it here, I can't work with one hand tied behind my back."

Atletico are spending precious pesetas on Miguel Martinez, signed on a three-year contract from Betis Seville in 1963. He was badly hurt in a friendly at Montevideo during Atletico's 1964 South American tour, and has been in a coma ever since. Though under no legal obligation, Atletico have paid all his hospital bills, and are caring for his wife and small son. Such consideration for their players deserves better fortune for the club in 1967.

SMALL PROFIT

REAL Madrid made a profit of some £17,800 from a turnover of almost £1 million last year. This is very small, in view of their victory in the European Cup, and Real must be anxious to repeat their success this season. They were given a fright by 1860 Munich, who won the first leg 1-0, and increased their lead after 14 minutes in the second, with a magnificent breakaway goal by Brunnenmeier after Real had already forced four corners.

Had they held this lead for any length of time I am sure the Cup-holders would have lost heart, but Veloso touched the outside of a post in their next attack, then crossed for Grosso to head past Radenkovic in the 22nd minute. Veloso and Pirri put Real ahead on aggregate, and though an injury forced Amancio to limp on the wing, they held on to their 3-2 lead. Had 1860 been able to field Wagner and especially Konietzka, both still under suspension, the result might have been very different. But the German FA were quite adamant in their refusal to grant even a temporary amnesty.

TECHNICAL DIRECTORY

A NEW exodus has started from Argentina, not to Colombia this time, but to the United States. Already Juan Carlos Vasquez and Mario Gonzalez have joined Galicia FC at New York, where they will shortly be joined by Ladislao Cap, who has persuaded Velez Sarsfield to cancel his contract. Among the others interested in going are Alfredo Rojas (Boca Juniors), Vicente De la Mata (River Plate), and his club-mate Ermindo Onega, at loggerheads with president Liberti and manager Cesarini.

Even with the return of Pedernera as technical director, Boca Juniors have been no more successful than River in the championship race; but they have discovered a 17-year-old prodigy, a winger called Romero, whom Pedernera says will be "one of the greatest forwards in the history of Argentinian football." High praise from a man who played with Labruna and Loustau at their peak.

The new champions are Racing, whose coach, Jose Pizzutti, led them to their first title since 1961 amid wild rejoicing. They made certain of victory three matches before the end of the season, after breaking all defensive records with a run of 38 League games without defeat. But it remains to be seen whether Racing can revive the glorious days of 1949-50-51, when they achieved a championship hat-trick with such players as Sued, Mendes, Boyé and Ruben Bravo.

The former boxer and Brazilian-trained manager, Jim Lopez, took charge of the national team for an outing against a Brazilian eleven. The result was a 1-1 draw, Brazil's Silva equalising a goal by Bernao. The Argentine selection was: Roma; Martin, Perfumo, Albrecht, Marzolini; Gonzales, Rattin, Sarnari; Bernao, Artime, Mas. In other words, only Ferreiro, Solario and Onega were missing from the team which nearly burst a blood-vessel against England at Wembley. I may be wrong, but I thought certain Argentinians had been suspended from internationals, which makes playing them in unofficial ones rather pointless . . . unless you intend to select them again and damn the consequences. I will bet a pound to a pesos that Rattin keeps his place. What did you do in the World Cup, Auntie FIFA?

TRAGIC DEATH

PERO Radakovitch, captain of FR Rijeka and a former Yugoslav international, has died from a heart attack at the tragically early age of 30. Radakovitch was at his peak in the early 60's, a powerful right-half with indomitable spirit.

One remembers him best for his part in the 1962 World Cup, when, after a magnificent match, he scored the winning goal against West Germany in the quarter-finals. There was no score with five minutes left to play when Galic dribbled through and slipped the ball to Radakovitch, who struck a thunderous shot past Fahrian without checking his stride.

SILLY QUESTION

ASK a silly question ... as one reporter did of Helenio Herrera: "What would you have done if football did not exist?" "Why," replied H.H., with sardonic assurance, "I would have invented it!"

"JULY" FORM IS ABSENT

World Cup "heroes" are not enjoying the best of club fortune now

1, ENGLAND; 2, WEST GERMANY; 3, PORTUGAL; 4, RUSSIA.

THESE were the final placings when the 1966 World Cup ended last July. But less than five months later, the prestige of those countries has been badly dented by the abject failure of their leading clubs in the two principal European competitions, namely the Champions' and Cup-Winners' Cups.

In fact, out of nine teams they have entered between them this season, only one — Germany's Bayern Munich — managed to reach the quarter-finals and this of the lesser tournament, the Cup-Winners Cup. I must also add, that teams from those countries were not directly opposing each other.

England — lost Liverpool and Everton to the Dutch champions Ajax and the Spanish Cup-holders Zaragoza, respectively.

West Germany (except for Bayern) — are minus 1860 Munich and Borussia Dortmund, who fell to Spain's Real Madrid and Scotland's Glasgow Rangers.

Portugal — have no further interest following the defeats of the Sporting Clubs from Lisbon and Braga by the two Hungarian clubs Vasas from Budapest and Györ.

Russia — have been deprived of Moscow's Torpedo and Spartak, beaten by Italy's Inter and Austria's Rapid.

It is often asserted that the strength of the national side is relevant to the power of club football. Then how does one explain the fact that little Bulgaria still has maximum representation with both clubs (CSKA and Slavia) in the quarter-finals, as has Scotland (Celtic and Rangers) who did not even qualify for the world finals. Or that Italy and Spain (Inter, Real Madrid, Zaragoza) continue to dominate the club tournaments but fail to muster really strong national XIs.

But then, on reflection, perhaps the World Cup is not a yardstick by which one should measure a country's soccer potential. Or maybe those four nations which succeeded in the World Cup are not really the tops after all.

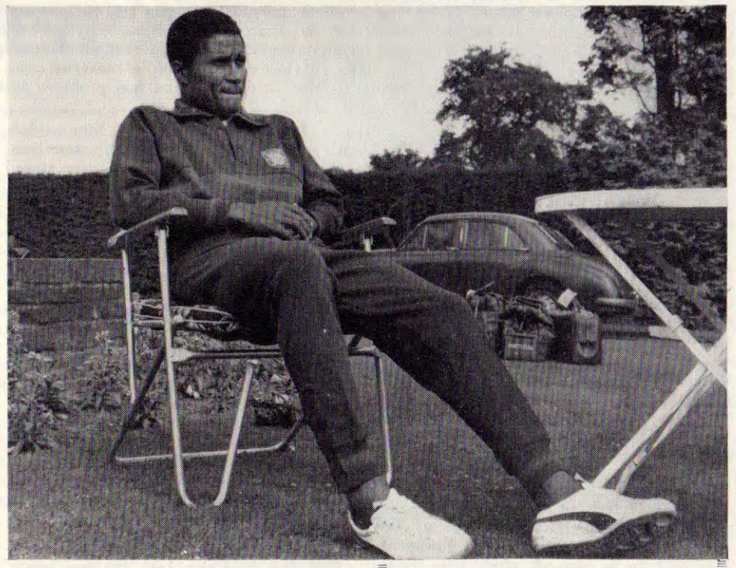
If you study the facts as I set them out above, you can draw your own conclusions.

Curiosity Corner

FOR those readers who are statistically minded, here are some interesting facts of European soccer.

England — have the largest number of soccer clubs, namely 30,060, followed by West Germany with 15,056, France 8,868, Czechoslovakia 6,776, and Italy 5,315.

West Germany — lead the way in the number of registered footballers: 2,345,793. Next come Russia (who do not publish figures for number of clubs) with 1,700,000, England 757,500, Holland 512,366, then France, Czechoslovakia, East Germany, Poland, Sweden, Denmark, Yugoslavia and Austria, followed by Italy (!) who have only 162,602.



Eusebio, pictured during a moment of relaxation from training, was the leading European goalscorer in international matches last season. (M.P.I.)

Russia — have most referees: 42,000. West Germany 30,193, England 20,500, East Germany 9,796, then Poland, France, Czechoslovakia, and behind them Italy with 3,935.

And who are Europe's most prolific marksmen?

Well, here is a list of *leading European goalscorers in international matches for 1966:*

Eusebio (Portugal)	12
Farkas (Hungary)	11
Torres (Portugal)	10
Hunt (England)	8
Beckenbauer, Haller, Seeler (all West Germany), Bene (Hungary), Hurst (England) and Jekov (Bulgaria)	7
Bobby Charlton (England) and Fratila (Rumania)	6
Jose Augusto (Portugal), Chislenko (Russia), Greaves (England), Mazzola (Italy), Nöldner (East Germany) and Turesson (Sweden)	5

Three Faces

TWENTY-FOUR-YEAR-OLD Eusebio da Silva Ferreira, Portugal's "Black Panther", Europe's and the World Cup's top scorer, has won BBC-TV's "International Sportsview Personality of the Year" award.

Cynics could laugh at this almost apologetic presentation, rather like an afterthought, following the No. 1 trophy being handed to Garfield Sobers for his services to cricket — a game whose appeal and popularity by comparison with soccer are virtually negligible — but it could not obscure the fact that Eusebio is today one of the world's truly outstanding athletes.

This courageous boy, who despite a nasty head-wound continued with a blood-soaked bandage for nearly an hour against Hungary and who won the quarter-final v. Korea virtually on his own, is called by his Benfica team-mates affectionately "Mufana", which means "Our little one".

Apparently there are three faces of "Mufana", the first being that of a love-sick boy who can jump up from a table during a strip-tease show at a night club to ring his wife Flora from Manchester (during the World Cup). His colleagues nodded understandingly.

Face No. 2. The crazy music-lover who bought 100 records in England to add to his collection of 500 back home and who would sing the latest hits loudly before playing in a match. But his team-mates claim that Eusebio sings off-key and they are often unable to stop themselves from laughter.

But above all is Face No. 3. The pleasant young man who disclosed last July: "You see, I only want to be a humble Portuguese. We came to England to learn from others and were surprised to have done so well. Frankly, we feared the Germans more than England. When English fans suggest that I show off when dancing with delight after scoring, then I don't understand them. My joy comes straight from the heart and somehow I must let off steam."

Then he said something profound: "The wealth which I accumulated from playing soccer is not all-important. I earn about £7,000 a year, enough to support my widowed mother and eight brothers and sisters, to buy them two small houses in Mozambique. My mother gave me health and happiness, those are the greatest riches of all."

The "Black Panther" has no intention of becoming a racial fanatic, like Cassius Clay, alias Muhammad Ali. Instead, all he wants is to play football, for which he claims to have been born. "That is enough" — he says, "I am only a simple man".

I first saw Eusebio during a Benfica-Santos game in an international tournament in Paris, in June 1961. A vast crowd turned out to cheer the great Pelé, already an established star and hero of the previous World Cup. With Benfica, the then European champions, on the receiving end, their manager, Bela Guttmann, brought on an unknown substitute at half-time, whose name was duly announced to the crowd: Eusebio. The 18-year-old youngster promptly obliged by scoring a magnificent hat-trick and though Benfica lost 3-6, the ecstatic fans roared and chanted Eu-se-bio, Eu-se-bio, at the end of a truly memorable game.

Four months later, playing for Portugal against England in a World Cup qualifying match at Wembley, he twice hit the post with such tremendous force that the paintwork came off! At the end of that season, remember, his first in professional football, he scored two goals in Benfica's wonderful 5-3 win over Real Madrid in the European Cup Final at Amsterdam. A year later, in another European Final, he opened the score for Benfica at Wembley, but AC Milan went on to win by 2-1, while in his third appearance in a Final, Benfica lost 0-1 to Inter at Milan, in 1965.

But that was also the year in which Eusebio hit *seven* out of the *nine* goals, which ensured that Portugal qualified for the World Cup finals for the first time in their history. And again, his nine goals — out of Portugal's total of 17 — in England, contributed mainly to his country's honourable third place.

Recently he was voted the third greatest athlete in the world, behind the American track runners Jim Ryun and Tommie Smith. In the 20th ballot and the biggest of its kind, sports papers representing 33 countries from all over the world took part, covering every branch of sport. No other footballer has ever achieved such high ranking.

But, as if to prove that he is only human, Eusebio recently had the mortification of missing his first penalty! After 39 (!) successive conversions, Malo of Academica

Searching the Soccer Scene with ARTHUR ROTMIL

(Coimbra) saved his spot-kick. With typical sportsmanship Eusebio rushed up to the goalkeeper to congratulate him and later asked for his autograph! "I shall frame this one," he said laughingly.

Good luck, Eusebio — and good shooting!

Glorious Inter?

THE scarcity of goals, so often publicised in Italian football, is only a minor ailment as compared with some of the inhuman aspects of the tough and uncompromising soccer set-up in this country.

Rarely has the public been so outraged as by the scandalous decision of champions Inter-Milan to field their international centre-half, Aristide Guarneri, in the recent local derby against AC Milan, whilst knowing that his father died on the night preceding the match. While the son was leaping about overjoyed at his team's 1-0 victory, the entire family were gathered to mourn at his father's deathbed. For the news of the bereavement was deliberately withheld from Guarneri until after the game, when deeply shocked, he was allowed to travel to the town of Cremona, where he was joined by the rest of the team, to attend the funeral.

Family ties are of paramount importance in this country and the emotional fans rightly demanded to know just who these men were, who could so cynically disregard a human tragedy for the sake of a football game. Particularly as Inter, who supplied eight men for each of Italy's last two internationals, have more than adequate reserves, some of whom are in fact full caps.

But to most Italians Inter are still the kings and their manager, Helenio Herrera, is "Il Mago" — the magician. At the time of writing, "I nerazzurri", as they are called on account of their black and blue colours — are sitting pretty at the top of the League, while in the European Cup they have removed two most formidable obstacles in Moscow's Torpedo and Hungary's pride, Vasas Budapest. Now they are drawn against Real Madrid. No wonder Herrera claims that Inter will have played three Finals in one season and has suggested to EUFA that some other method of pairing should be found, to prevent the favourites from meeting so early. This will be the third clash of these giants, who between them have collected *eight* out of the 11 Champions' Cups competed for, so far. In the 1964 Final in Vienna, Inter triumphed by 3-1, but Real gained revenge last year by winning the semi-final on a 2-1 aggregate. The feeling in Europe is that whoever wins this tie will collect another "Copa Europa". Are you listening, you Celtic fans, or for that matter the exultant supporters of Ajax? Which brings me to another story....

Super Ajax

FIRST lady: "What was that?—I thought I saw lightning in your kitchen."

Second lady: "Lightning?—It's my new super Ajax. It bleaches before you even start rubbing."

For the uninitiated, this is the opening gambit in one of my favourite TV commercials. Do you get the message? Yes, new super Ajax certainly bleached (pronounce "blitzed") and finally rubbed Liverpool's noses into the Anfield ground.

Whatever one can say about their boss, Mr. Shankly, well, he certainly is no prophet. "We shall score seven goals," he declared in a fit of over-confidence which comes from long practice, and this after losing 1-5 at Amsterdam. Surprisingly though, he found two allies in Fulham's manager, Vic Buckingham, and Wrexham's Jack Rowley, who both formerly coached Ajax — with less success, I might add, than their present boss, Rinus Michels — and who claimed that the Dutch would lack moral courage when facing the "Kop" and were technically unfit to survive — even with a four-goal lead! Mr. Buckingham also went as far as to say that if he were a betting man, he would put his money on Liverpool!

I really thought that the phase when British managers underrated and belittled Continental opposition had died long ago. In 1960, to be precise, when Stanley Cullis's Wolves crashed by 0-4 in Barcelona and several so-called experts predicted with bold optimism but shattering inaccuracy that Wolves would still win through! The result: Oh, another 5-2 thrashing by CF Barcelona at Molineux. How near Ajax got to humiliating Liverpool! Only a goal by Roger Hunt four minutes from time saved their faces. Next time, Mr. Shankly, please, please, no more prophecies. As for Mr. Buckingham, well, he can count himself lucky that he is not a betting man.

Perhaps they should try my method, which is quite infallible. Just imagine the following riddle: Team A has beaten team B by 5-1 at home. What would the score be in the return match? I know that I would answer without hesitation: *2-2.*

After reading the result, of course....

WORLD SOCCER back numbers available—

1964: February.

1965: February, April, May, June, October, November, December.

1966: May, August, September, October, November, December.

1967: January.

MAN IN THE MIDDLE'S VIEWS **By Sidney Clarkson**

IGNORANCE A CAUSE

"WHY write about them?" may be the reader's first reaction. Surely there is enough publicity about the many name-takings, cautions and sending-off incidents that accompany the quest for points, prestige and promotion. Well, fortunately for us referees, the bad lads are a very small minority.

There are splendid club-men who pay to play weekly who have never had their names taken let alone been dismissed from the field. So although collectively it is stated that football administrators are spending hundreds of voluntary hours over cases of indiscipline, the increased leisure engendered by the five-day working week also allows chance for more teams to play rather than watch.

In the professional class it may be true that, despite rosy reminiscence of the "good old days", the game today is played with a more even display of skill and devotion to method. The high rewards possible of Continental trips and competition help towards hot-house atmosphere of quick tempo and temper. Transmission of Continental games through the medium of television has lent visual evidence of the foreigners' audible participation. On the demerit side the English crowd has adopted the shrill whistle and slow hand-clap of disapproval. Ask any player or ref. if this trait helps any? . . .

COURT APPEARANCE

Now one can state categorically that no referee delights in "booking" a player, or belittling him by dismissal. If a player loses his temper, no referee can afford to. His action, seen often by hundreds, is open to enquiry. It may not be generally known, but a referee has to make a duplicate report on every caution given to his County Authority, and if a dismissed player asks for a personal hearing, the official, at great inconvenience, may be required to attend an enquiry and substantiate his first written statement of an event that happened in a few seconds after an interval of, say, a month! Small wonder, then, that not a few refs. bend over backwards to keep 22 players on the pitch.

Yet reputations of referees go round the dressing-rooms as much as those of certain players, and a name for scrupulous fairness and firm handling by an official may well save him from having more "misunderstandings" in his next match. At the beginning of the 1964 season I was amazed to hear from the lips of an organising League secretary that I had not been allocated matches in his class of play, as he was under the impression that I had sent *three* men off in one game, and had caused one secretary and club to disband! What a mark to leave on the game one loves. But how utterably untrue. "Anyhow," said the secretary, "we're starting you off this season since we're so short of refs." What a vote of confidence! Much better the real vote of confidence from 22 players who clapped me spontaneously in the dressing-room this season after a game played in a gale with rain pouring steadily for three-quarters of the time, and the necessity to scooter home five miles in the same soaked referee kit without changing.

THREE IN A LIFETIME

Far too many junior players get into the ref.'s book from sheer ignorance of the rules and the referee's powers. How often does a player ask, "Is it a direct kick, ref.?" Let me state why I sent off the only three lads I have ever done during the course of many years of whistling. Let me repeat they were at different intervals.

One. A free-kick is a free-kick. Strange but true. Players may not gesticulate or try to put off an opponent who is taking a free-kick whether after a foul or after a "dead-ball". Rule 13. An inside-forward was told this in a "friendly aside". Not long after, towards half-time, after an indirect free-kick awarded against his side, he persisted in jumping about within ten yards of the player. When whistled and told again, he shouted at me, "I can do what I like".

Quietly I told him he could not, and when he went off the field he could look up rule 13 from the booklet referees' chart in my scooter bag.

Two. Case Number Two was with a youth playing in Sunday football, in which some lads think the Saturday rules do not apply. A player was brought down in a foul tackle. Close up with play, the free-kick was awarded straight away. But that was not enough for the player, who scooped up a handful of mud and threw it in the face of the other who had tripped him. Violent conduct — marching orders. A talented lad who had played for his city and turned rather sour.

Three. Case Number Three was the inside-forward of a robust, peevish side who were winning six-one. He wanted to be in the scoring list, came through with the ball but was dispossessed. As the ball was being cleared over the touchline, he turned and hacked at the defender. Returning home on that same night I saw that the same side had been placed bottom in the previous year for points awarded in a sportsmanship award in both a youth league and also a floodlit league played during the week-nights, in the same season. Can a leopard change its spots? For the good of the game and the referee's health they just have got to!

LET IT GO!

As a schoolmaster, one could easily earn the name of a strict disciplinarian, of judging without mercy or humour. Such is far from the truth. We have often changed an awkward situation with a jest or a laugh that has eased the tension. Many are the players that could have been censored. A Barnsley district lad playing in an end of season cup came off the field at half-time with his side two goals up, having had the benefit of a strong gale, and was heard to murmur to his mate, "And I suppose he'll give them two penalties next half". Was that behaviour of an "ungentlemanly manner"? Law 3, which starts about number of players, has the decision of the International Board 1956 that a player shall be debarred from any further part in the match, and shall not be replaced.

Having also the quick ears of a "dominie", one picks up the sarcastic spoken thought of a player who thinks his side are being martyred. "Have we really got a free-kick given?" What does Sir Stanley suggest for such unwelcome and needless comment?

DISCRIMINATING SOCCER FANS READ

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WHERE HAVE THEY GONE?

★ By TOM JAGGER

WHERE are the great goal-getters of years ago? Where are the players who can not only finish off the job but keep on doing it week after week? Where are the wonder scoring machines who can shoot a team to the top and keep it there?

It is difficult finding any satisfactory answer to those questions because the men who can be relied upon for a constant supply don't seem to exist today.

Granted there are many capable of hitting 'em home fairly regularly, though nothing like the fellows who bossed the soccer scene in the years gone by, and were household words not only in Britain but also in many other countries.

They made scoring child's play. And they not only filled the back of the nets in the ordinary run-of-the-mill games in the Leagues, but in top-class representative fixtures, too.

I well remember Nat Lofthouse hitting the Irish for six of the best in 1952, and some of the nap hand boys I saw in action were Hughie Gallagher, Joe Bradford, Albert Stubbins, and Brian Clough.

It might be pointed out by those jealous of present-day stock that apart from Gallagher's collection in 1929, the rest were obtained only against Irish League opposition. But that point automatically brings the retort that strong-kicking Irish defences are always tough to beat even if they do lack wider experience.

No criticism can alter the fact that those players had the knack, the urgency, and the 90-minute endeavour, and to blazes with the wages question.

Perhaps they were taken a little too much for granted whereas nowadays they would have packed all the grounds, and become near-millionaires in next to no time. Of course, most of them had had a target set up—Dixie Dean's record 60 goals-in-a-season.

It's a figure that still stands, and, actually, the Everton centre-forward did even better, because his complete record of not only League goals but those obtained also in the FA Cup and internationals totted up to the tidy little figure of 82!

Now, we have to be satisfied with half that total. Many times even less. And thank our lucky stars some years if we have anybody who has notched over 30.

It sounds almost incredible, doesn't it? Yet it's the whole truth, and nothing but the truth. For it is a cast-iron fact that only once since 1953, if one confines oneself to recent figures, has there been a man capable of soaring towards the half-century.

Little Peterborough United had the right man in Terry Bly, for he reached 52 in the 1960–61 campaign, and is still way out on his own. As a matter of fact, only four have edged near his total during the period we are considering, and at no time did any of those seem likely to overhaul Bly's figure.

Cliff Holton went nearest with the 48 he grabbed on Watford's behalf in the 1959–60 season, and the next best all stayed on the 44 mark — Kevin Hector, Tom Johnston, and that other really prolific scorer, Arthur Rowley, who altogether got 434 goals before hanging up his boots to the sighs of goalkeepers all over the place.

Match hauls have also diminished in parallel style with general scoring. If a player gets a hat-trick these days the sports editors search for the big type and his picture goes alongside the story. Yet only a few short years ago personal totals of seven, six and five were almost commonplace.

I've told you about the big individual efforts in representative games. Well, stepping down to the League affairs, there was the memorable day in 1936 when, while Hitler's footballers packed his Berlin stadium, Joe Payne, over here, was packing 'em in for Luton. He made his début for the little Bedfordshire club against Bristol Rovers and made certain that nobody would ever forget it by scoring *ten* goals in a 12-0 win.

It stands out particularly clearly in my memory because only four months previously I had seen one player hit nine, and I never thought any other would equal such a figure, let alone pass it. "Bunny" Bell was the glory boy, and he did the amazing trick on the same pitch as the one where Dean learned the game—Prenton Park.

Tom Johnston, former Leyton Orient and Blackburn centre-forward once reached the tidy sum of 44 goals in a season, a figure rarely neared these days. (P.N.I.)

Bell was leader of the Tranmere attack against poor old Oldham Athletic, who were vanquished by 13-4 on a day when nobody should have had to suffer like the Oldham goalkeeper because, after all, it was Boxing Day.

Tommy Briggs, when he was with Blackburn, Ted Drake (Arsenal) and Albert Whitehurst (Bradford City) are just a few of the boys who have hit seven each, and when we drop down a peg and reach the sixes the record pages are fairly liberally dotted with names. Outstanding must be Louis Page, the Burnley left-winger who became an experimental centre-forward and marked the occasion with a double hat-trick.

I guess they all look back on those feats with considerable satisfaction. All, that is, except Denis Law. He would be doing so but for a cruel trick of Fate. The dynamic Scot notched six on Manchester City's behalf in a cup-tie at Luton in 1961, but he might as well have saved himself all the trouble.

Because the referee, battling like the rest through shocking weather, abandoned the game a few minutes before the end, and so those goals don't count officially for the record.

Anyway, there are countless other instances of big scoring, and it seems to me they all vividly illustrate the crying need for better marksmanship now, for we seem to be slap in the middle of a great goal famine. More and more games are ending in goalless draws or the fans are luckier and see just the odd goal or two.

The other week, for instance, there were only 148 goals scored in 92 League games. Twenty-one teams failed to score at all, and another 24 just managed one apiece. Shocking. For it means the end product is gradually disappearing.

It may be due to this dreadful 4-3-3 system. Or to one of the many others. But whatever the cause it is obvious that tactics which in many cases lay emphasis on defence, are ruining the game, and, what's equally important, driving away the fans in their thousands.

But in time everybody who plans will have to recognise that the fans count more than they may think at the moment, and the only way to keep those they've got and win back the lost ones is to concentrate on a system aimed at attack.

Only when this great goal famine ends and the game is being played in its original form will the grounds start filling.

World Cup records to break

ONE of the most published facts about the 1966 World Cup finals held in England was that the veteran Mexican goalkeeper Antonio Carbajal was appearing in the finals for the fifth consecutive occasion, thus establishing an unchallenged record for the number of finals in which any player has appeared.

It can be argued that Carbajal's inclusion in the Mexican team for their final match of the series was merely a gesture on the part of the Mexican selectors, to enable their man to obtain this record, rather than for the honest belief that Carbajal was better suited for the job than young Calderon who had played with distinction in his country's two previous matches.

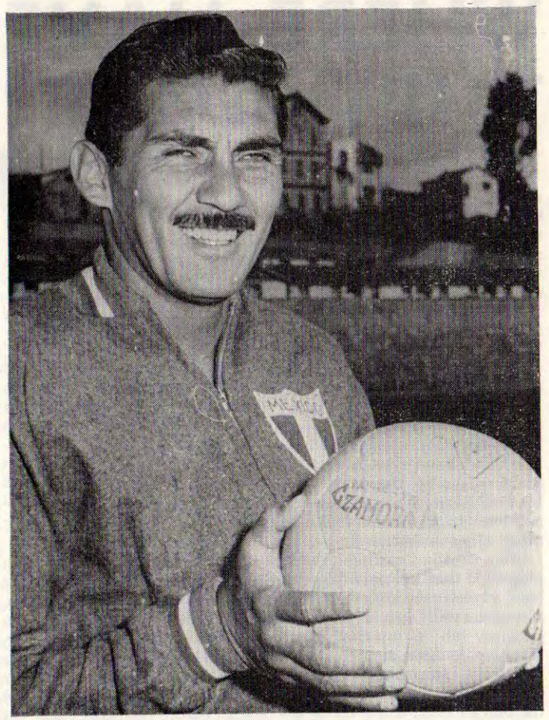
It can also be argued that it has been comparatively easy for a world class star, as Carbajal undoubtedly is, to hold down a regular position in the national team of a country not considered higher than a second-rate soccer power. Furthermore it can hardly be denied that the reason why Mexico have qualified for the finals so consistently over the past decade is due more to their geographical position than any pretence to being amongst the globe's top 16 soccer playing nations. In reaching the 1966 finals, for example, Mexico merely had to prove supremacy over such soccer nonentities as the United States, Honduras, Costa Rica, Surinam, Trinidad, Jamaica, Cuba, and the Netherlands Antilles.

To dismiss Carbajal's record, however, because of the above considerations would be totally unfair to the amiable amigo from Mexico who, had he been born in a leading soccer nation, would probably occupy the respect and admiration reserved for only the greatest of goalkeepers such as Yachin, Swift, and Zamora, and possibly may one day be accorded to Gordon Banks. For any player to remain a constant choice for his country for over 16 years as Carbajal has done is a sign of both ability and consistency in any soccer language. Furthermore to survive as a goalkeeper for so long in a national team virtually always the weakest in the World Cup finals is tantamount to accepting the most arduous task to confront any player and that Carbajal never faltered under such pressure is an unqualified testimony to his right to a place in the soccer hall of fame.

Despite this, however, I feel that to state as did most of the English Press that Carbajal's record will remain unequalled for all time, is to be presumptuous, and indicates a lack of knowledge on the world soccer scene by many of the English sports writers who merely thumbed through their records at the time of the World Cup for some printable facts to fill their columns. Nobody would suggest with such certainty that Billy Wright's record of 105 caps for England will not eventually be broken but at the time Wright set the record it looked as impregnable as does Carbajal's today. Personally I feel that not only is it extremely likely that Carbajal's record will be equalled some time in the future but that also it is possible for the figure to be beaten, even under the present set-up of holding the tournament once every four years.

Two main requirements for any potential candidate for the record will be that the player in question belongs to a national team strong enough to qualify for the finals on six consecutive occasions and that the player himself begins his international career young enough to allow that career to stretch for 20 years.

The first requirement is not beyond the scope of several nations. Brazil, for example, have been participants in all eight finals contested to date whilst the two countries already qualified for 1970, Mexico (as hosts) and England (as holders) will be competing for the sixth consecutive time. Hungary, Russia, West Germany, Argentina and Uruguay have all been consistent qualifiers in recent years and all the countries mentioned with the possible exception of Mexico should continue to qualify regularly in the future.



ANTONIO CARBAJAL (Mexico). (M.P.)

The method of arranging the groupings for qualifying matches is long overdue for reform and it can be expected that with continued pressure the desired changes will eventually be undertaken by the legislators of FIFA. When such ideas are put in hand the result should be that each country will have a fairer chance of reaching the finals and the present system, whereby weak teams pass through virtually unchallenged whilst stronger nations eliminate each other, will be abolished.

The second requirement, that the player should survive on the international scene for so long a period, is obviously beyond the scope of the average international player, however brilliant he may be at his peak. It is not, however, an average player for whom we are looking. The player capable of breaking Carbajal's record must indeed be a superman in football boots. He must first appear in the World Cup finals at about 18 years of age and still be there in his late thirties, using his experience to marshal younger colleagues.

One player whose career as a world class star spans a period of years sufficient to have exceeded this record is our own Sir Stanley Matthews, who made his international début in 1934 at the age of 19 and appeared for the last time in international soccer in 1957, nearly 23 years later.

Restricted

The disinterest of our own administrators in the Jules Rimet Trophy during the 1930s coupled with the advent of the Second World War, restricted Matthews's World Cup final appearances to two finals only (1950 and 1954). Had England been involved in World Cup finals in 1934, 1938, 1942 and 1946, it is almost certain that Matthews would have appeared in the side on all four occasions. This would have given him the six appearances to have set the record now claimed at five appearances by Carbajal. Add to this, that many would have included Matthews in the 1958 side which failed to reach the quarter-finals and the figure of seven possible World Cup finals can be seen to have been within the reach of one player.

Whether there are any potential Matthews or Carbajals amongst the present crop of international players must for the time being remain a hypothetical question, but there are two men who stand out as being capable of at least emulating the Mexican record holder. The two men are Pelé of Brazil and Schnellinger of West Germany, both of whom appeared in the finals for the first time in Sweden 1958 at the ages of 17 and 19 respectively. In 1966 both appeared in the finals for the third time. Both of them represent leading soccer nations and are sufficiently skilled to suggest that they could well participate in the next two finals. So it would appear that Carbajal's record is in danger of being equalled in eight years' time, which suggests the record is far more vulnerable than many of the scribes had thought. There is, of course, a world of difference between that which is possible and that which is factual. Pelé has already indicated that he will not play in future finals in view of the manner in which he was hacked out of the 1966 finals. I believe, however, that Pelé may well change his mind as Brazil prepare to regain the championship crown they wore so well.

In 1974 the finals will be held in West Germany and Pelé and Schnellinger, who will be aged 33 and 35, could be appearing for the fifth time and, if so, surely at least one of them will go on to set the new record. Pelé will still be only 37 in 1978 and many players, including several from his own country, have appeared in the finals at a more advanced age. With Pelé then must rest the best chance of achieving the record and only his own reluctance or injury will prevent him from adding yet another honour to his impressive list.

Including Carbajal, Pelé and Schnellinger, 24 players in all have appeared in at least three finals. Of these, apart from Carbajal, only one, Djalma Santos the veteran Brazilian full-back, has managed to go beyond a trio of appearances and play in a fourth final series. Santos appeared in his fourth series in 1966 at the age of 39 and his chances of appearing again can be discounted.

The list of players with three or more finals to their name is dominated by Brazilians. Of the 24 players concerned, six hail from that country and they were all members of the 1958 side which is recognised as one of the best ever sides to compete in the championships. Mexico supplies four of the remainder with West Germany and Hungary supplying three each. The rest consist of two each from Czechoslovakia, England (Wright and Finney), and France, and one apiece from Rumania and Russia. Of the 24 players only three, the Frenchmen Delfour and Mattler, and the Rumanian Covaci, appeared in their finals before the war. These three players each appeared in the first three finals under very different circumstances than exist today. No player from the pre-war era appeared in subsequent finals after hostilities had ceased. The complete list of players with three or more World Cup finals to their name appears at the end of this article.

Story by DONALD HALES

Shared

If Carbajal's record will not be broken until at least 1978 another record concerning appearances by individuals in World Cup finals seems certain to fall in the next series. This is the record for the number of matches in the finals in which any player has appeared. That the present record is shared by four players is proof alone that it is extremely vulnerable.

Surprisingly perhaps, neither Carbajal nor Djalma Santos are near the top of the list. The record in question at present stands at 15 matches and is shared by Didi and Nilton Santos of Brazil and Seeler and Schaefer of West Germany. Possibly Seeler, the only player in the quartet not to have appeared in a championship winning side, will set the new record himself. The nearest challengers to Didi and company are two goalkeepers, Gilmar of Brazil, and Yashin of Russia, who have played in 14 and 13 matches respectively. Yashin has now come to the end of a distinguished career but Gilmar at 33 years of age is still young enough to appear again in the finals and challenge for the record, particularly as his understudy in this year's tournament, Manga, looked far from secure when called on to replace him against Portugal. If Manga had not been chosen for Brazil's final match in the 1966 finals in his place then Gilmar would at present already have a share in the record. By the same token had not Schaefer been rested when West Germany played Hungary in a group match in 1954 or had not a leg injury prevented Seeler from appearing in the third place match against France in 1958, then the record would not be shared as it is. Schnellinger has 12 appearances to his credit and is obviously a potential holder of this record but Pelé has only eight appearances to his name and may find than even if he does appear in six finals that the record for the number of matches played may elude him. Djalma Santos has appeared in 12 matches during his four finals whilst Carbajal despite having appeared in five finals has only 11 appearances behind him.

Altogether there are eight Brazilians with ten or more matches to their name. These include the six previously mentioned as having appeared in three or more finals, plus Vava and Zito, both of whom were also members of the 1958 championship side. Twenty-seven players in all have managed ten or more matches, with Mexico this time providing only one, Carbajal. West Germany take second place to Brazil with six players, followed by England with four. It is interesting to note that all of the English players just scrape into the list with ten appearances but one of them, Bobby Moore, may well double his total before finishing.

Impossible

It is impossible to estimate what the ultimate record will be. Under the present system, excluding replays, the maximum number of matches in which any nation can play during a final series is six. Theoretically therefore, if it is possible for a man to compete in seven finals, it would be equally possible for him to play in 42 matches in all, assuming that the player's team reaches the semi-finals seven consecutive times and that the player himself fails to miss a single match in the finals for a period of 24 years. This is clearly impossible and I would estimate that any player who appears in 30 such matches would be assured of the record for a lifetime.

The fact remains, however, that both records can be broken and when they are you can be certain that the sports writers from the British newspapers will declare the new record unbeatable and nothing incites a new record more than a declaration of the invincibility of the existing one.

List of players who have appeared in three or more finals.

Carbajal (Mexico)	5 1950, 54, 58, 62, 66
Djalma Santos (Brazil)	4 54, 58, 62, 66
Didi (Brazil)	3 54, 58, 62
Garrincha (Brazil)	3 58, 62, 66
Gilmar (Brazil)	3 58, 62, 66
Pelé (Brazil)	3 58, 62, 66
Nilton Santos (Brazil)	3 54, 58, 62
Novak (Czechoslovakia)	3 54, 58, 62
Pluskal (Czechoslovakia)	3 54, 58, 62
Finney (England)	3 50, 54, 58
Wright (England)	3 50, 54, 58
Delfour (France)	3 30, 34, 38
Mattler (France)	3 30, 34, 38
Schaefer (West Germany)	3 54, 58, 62
Schnellinger (West Germany)	3 58, 62, 66
Seeler (West Germany)	3 58, 62, 66
Grosics (Hungary)	3 54, 58, 62
Matrai (Hungary)	3 58, 62, 66
Sipos (Hungary)	3 58, 62, 66
Cardenas (Mexico)	3 54, 58, 62
Del Muro (Mexico)	3 58, 62, 66
Reyes (Mexico)	3 58, 62, 66
Covaci (Rumania)	3 30, 34, 38
Yashin (Russia)	3 58, 62, 66

List of players with ten or more match appearances in World Cup finals.

Didi (Brazil)	15
Nilton Santos (Brazil)	15
Schaefer (West Germany)	15
Seeler (West Germany)	15
Gilmar (Brazil)	14
Yashin (Russia)	13
Garrincha (Brazil)	12
Matrai (Hungary)	12
Novak (Czechoslovakia)	12
Djalma Santos (Brazil)	12
Schnellinger (W. Germany)	12
Sipos (Hungary)	12
Zagalo (Brazil)	12
Carbajal (Mexico)	11
Grosics (Hungary)	11
Svensson (Sweden)	11
Charlton (England)	10
Masopust (Czechoslovakia)	10
Moore (England)	10
Rahn (West Germany)	10
Skoglund (Sweden)	10
Szymaniak (West Germany)	10
Vava (Brazil)	10
Walter, F. (West Germany)	10
Wilson (England)	10
Wright (England)	10
Zito (Brazil)	10

CLASSIFIED RESULTS

● From last month

MAY 25

Belgium (2) **2** (Van Himst, Van der Boer) 3,000
Eire (1) **3** (Cantwell 2, Barber)

Belgium: Trappeniers; Heylens, Cornelis; Van Der Boer, Plaskie, Lemoine; Semmeling, Jurion, Stockmann, Van Himst, Puis.
Eire: Kelly; Brennan, Dunne; McGrath, Hurley, Meagan; Barber, Fullam, Cantwell, Giles, Haverty.
Ref.: Schwinte (France).

MAY 30

Denmark (0) **0** 27,100
Turkey (0) **0**

Denmark: Nielsen; Hansen, Hartwig; Petersen, Larsen, Jensen; Poulsen, Bilde, Olsen, Thorst, Le Fevre.
Turkey: Turgay; Aydan, Aktuma; Guzelirmak, Oezkarsli, Uraz; Has, Cevrim, Metin, Zemzem, Altiparmak.

JUNE 1

West Germany (0) **1** (Seeler) 65,000
Rumania (0) **0**

West Germany: Tilkowski; Lutz, Schnellinger; Weber, Hottges, Szymaniak; Grabowski (Held), Ulsass, Seeler, Overath, Hornig.
Rumania: Ionescu; Popa, Mocanu; Ghergheli, Halmageanu (Nunweiler III), Dan Coe; Pircalab, Dridea, Badea, Dobrin, Sorin-Avram.

Yugoslavia (0) **0** 20,000
Bulgaria (2) **2** (Zekov 2)

Yugoslavia: Soskic (Pantelic); Durkovic (Kuci), Jusufi (Jeftic); Gugleta, Vasovic, Sekeres; Samardzic, Sekularac (Becejac), Santrac (Hasanagic), Skoblar, Vukoje.
Bulgaria: Simeonov; Chalamanov, Voutzov; Jetchev, Gaganelov, Pænev; Jekov, Abadijev, Asparoukhov, Yakimov, Kostov.

JUNE 5

Russia (1) **3** (Metreveli, Chislenko, Banischevski) 103,000
France (2) **3** (Blanchet, Gondet, Bonnel)

Russia: Bannikov (Kavazashvili); Ponomarev, Danilov (Afonin); Voronin, Chesternev, Sabo (Serebrannikov); Metreveli, Porkuyan, Banischevski, Malofeev (Markarov), Chislenko.
France: Eon; Djorkaeff, Chorda; Budzinski, Artelesa, Bosquier; Blanchet, Bonnel, Gondet, Herbin, Hausser.

Hungary (2) **3** (Bene 2, Farkas) 30,000
Switzerland (0) **1** (Kuhn)

Hungary: Szentmihalyi; Kaposzta, Sovari; Mathesz, Meszoly, Sipos; Bene, Rakosi, Albert, Farkas, Fenyvesi.
Switzerland: Prosperi; Fuhrer, Leimgruber; Bani, Schneiter, Stierli; Willi Allemann, Kuhn, Quentin, Durr, Hertig.

Brazil (2) **4** (Lima 2, Pele pen., Parana) 16,000
Peru (0) **0**

Brazil: Gylmar; Carlos Alberto, Djalma Dias; Zito, Altair, Paulo Henrique; Garrincha, Lima, Servilho, Pele, Parana.
Peru: Rubinos; Campos, Nieri; Pau, Melendes, Elias; Cavagnari, Urunga, Iwasaki, Niflon, Pajuclo.

Finland (1) **1** (Lindholm) 21,000
Sweden (0) **0**

Finland: Halme; Mäkipää, Nummila; Kanerva, Kautonen, Syrjävaara; Kumpulampi, Mäkelä, Lindholm, Pahlman, Laine.
Sweden: Hult; Karlsson, Bjorklundt (R.); Nordquist, Bjorklundt (B.), Axelsson; Backman, Kindvall, Simonsson, Larsson, Svahn.

JUNE 8

Brazil (2) **2** (Silva, Garrincha) 109,380
Poland (0) **1** (Liberda)

Brazil: Manga; Djalma Santos, Paulo Henrique; Dino, Altair, Dias; Garrincha, Lima, Silva, Pele, Parana.
Poland: Szeja; Strzalkowski, Winkler; Wilim II (Blaut), Oslizlo, Anczok; Banas (Galeczka), Brejza, Lubanski (Wilim I), Suski, Liberda.

JUNE 12

Portugal (3) **4** (Eusebio 2, Jose Augusto 2) 20,000
Norway (0) **0**

Portugal: Carvalho; Festa, Hilario; Jose Carlos, Germano, Jaime Graça; Jose Augusto, Eusebio, Torres, Coluna, Simoes.
Norway: Andersen; Johansen (R.), Mathiesen; Berg, Thorsen, Stakseth; Sunde, Pedersen, Stavrum, Nielsen, Johansen (E.).

Brazil (2) **2** (Pele 2) 82,976
Czechoslovakia (0) **1** (Masny)

Brazil: Gilmar; Fidelis, Paulo Henrique; Zito, Brito, Fontana; Jairzinho, Lima, Alcindo, Pele (Tostao), Amarildo (Edu).
Czechoslovakia: Viktor; Lala, Novak; Hrdlicka, Popluhar, Smolik; Vesely (Dyba), Szikora (Knesel), Jokl (Strunc), Kuna, Ondrasek (Masny).

Argentina (0) **1** (Mas) 50,000
Poland (0) **1** (Liberda)

Argentina: Roma; Perfumo, Marzolini; Ferreiro, Rattin, Albrecht; Onega (E.), De La Mata (Sarnari), Rojas, Onega (D.) (Tarabini), Mas.
Poland: Gomola; Strzalkowski, Winkler; Brejza, Oslizlo, Anczok; Banas, Wilim II, Lubanski, Suski, Liberda.

JUNE 14

Italy (2) **6** (Mazzola, Perani, Rizzo 2, Barison, Meroni) 25,000
Bulgaria (0) **1** (Asparoukhov)

Italy: Albertosi; Burgnich, Facchetti; Rosato (Guarneri), Salvadore, Fogli; Perani, Bulgarelli, Mazzola (Meroni), Rivera (Rizzo), Pascutti (Barison).
Bulgaria: Simeonov; Chalamanov, Gaganelov; Penev, Voutzov, Jetchev; Jekov, Abadijev, Asparoukhov, Yakimov, Kolev.

JUNE 15

Israel (0) **1** (Spiegler) 40,000
Uruguay (0) **2** (Abbadie 2)

Israel: Michaeli; Feigenbaum, Kaplan; Rosenthal, Schwager, Talbi; Spiegel, Spiegler, Stelmach, Nache Assis, Young.
Uruguay: Mazurkiewicz; Troche, Manicera; Ubinas, Diaz, Caetano; Cortes (Rocha and later Douksas), Abbadie, Sacia (Silva), Goncalvez, Perez.

Brazil (2) **2** (Pele, Zito) 62,000
Czechoslovakia (2) **2** (Popluhar, Szikora)

Brazil: Manga; Fidelis, Paulo Henrique; Zito, Brito, Fontana (Altair); Jairzinho, Lima, Alcindo (Silva), Pele, Amarildo (Edu).
Czechoslovakia: Vencel; Lala, Novak; Horvath, Popluhar, Smolik; Vesely, Szikora, Kuna, Masny, Ondrasek (Jokl).

JUNE 18

Scotland (0) **0** 23,000
Portugal (1) **1** (Torres)

Scotland: Ferguson; Bell, McCreadie; Greig, McGrory, Bremner; Scott, Cooke, Young (Chalmers), Baxter, Sinclair.
Portugal: Pereira; Morais, Hilario; Vicente, Baptista, Jaime Garça; Jose Augusto (Peres), Eusebio, Torres, Coluna, Simoes.

Switzerland (1) **1** (Pena o.g.) 18,000
Mexico (1) **1** (Padilla)

Switzerland: Elsener (Eichmann); Grobety, Fuhrer; Tacchella, Schneiter, Durr; Odermatt, Willi Allemann (Pottier), Hosp, Kuhn, Schindelholz.
Mexico: Calderon; Chaires, Nunez; Hernandez, Pena, Diaz; Ruvalcaba, Padilla, Cisneros, Fragoso, Jara.

Italy (0) **1** (Burgnich) 30,000
Austria (0) **0**

Italy: Albertosi (Pizzaballa); Maldini (Burgnich), Facchetti (Landini); Guarneri, Janich, Bedin; Meroni (Domenghini), Bulgarelli (Juliano), De Paoli (Meroni), Corso, Barison.
Austria: Pichler; Ludescher, Breibert; Hirnschrodt, Glechner, Stamm; Seitl, Buzek, Skocik, Flogel, Szauer (Parits).

JUNE 19

Rumania (1) **1** (Iancu) 80,000
Uruguay (0) **0**

Rumania: Ionescu; Popa, Mocanu; Ghergeli, Nunweiler, Dan Coe; Pircalab, Dobrin (Popescu), Dridea, Iancu, Sorin-Avram.
Uruguay: Taibo; Troche, Emilio Alvarez; Goncalvez, Forlan, Caetano; Urruzmendi, Douksas (Cortes), Silva, Rocha, Esparrago (Perez).

JUNE 21

Denmark (0) **1** (Le Fevre) 20,000
Portugal (1) **3** (Eusebio, Torres 2)

Denmark: Nielsen; Hansen (J.), Hartwig; Hansen (J. J.), Larsen, Petersen; Olsen, Sondergaard, Bilde, Enoksen, Le Fevre (Thorst).
Portugal: Carvalho; Festa, Hilario; Jaime Graça, Germano, Jose Carlos; Figueiredo, Eusebio, Torres, Coluna, Simoes.

JUNE 22

N. Ireland (0) **4** (Johnston, Elder, Nicholson, Ferguson) 12,000
Mexico (1) **1** (Pena pen.)

N. Ireland: McClelland; Magill, Elder; Harvey, Neill, Nicholson; Welsh, Ferguson, Irvine (Johnston), Dougan, Clements.
Mexico: Calderon; Chaires, Pena; Nunez, Hernandez, Diaz; Ruvalcaba, Padilla, Cisneros, Fragoso, Mercado.

Italy (1) **3** (Pascutti 2, Meroni) 57,000
Argentina (0) **0**

Italy: Albertosi; Burgnich, Facchetti; Rosato, Salvadore, Leoncini; Perani, Bulgarelli, Mazzola (Meroni), Rivera (Rizzo), Pascutti.
Argentina: Roma; Perfumo, Marzolini; Ferreiro (Sainz), Sarnari, Albrecht; Chaldun, Solari, Daniel Onega (Rojas), De La Mata (Ermindo Onega), Mas.

JUNE 23

Spain (0) **1** (Gento) 43,000
Uruguay (1) **1** (Perez)

Spain: Iribar; Sanchis, Eladio; Del Sol, Zoco, Glaria (Violeta); Ufarte, Peiro (Amancio), Marcelino, Lapetra (Adelardo), Gento.
Uruguay: Mazurkiewicz; Troche, Diaz; Goncalvez, Forlan, Caetano; Cortes, Abbadie, Silva, Rocha, Perez.

West Germany (1) **2** (Overath, Seeler) 75,000
Yugoslavia (0) **0**

West Germany: Tilkowski; Hottges, Schnellinger; Beckenbauer, Schulz, Weber; Kramer, Haller, Seeler, Overath, Held.
Yugoslavia: Pantelic; Kuci, Jeftic; Gugleta, Vasovic, Sekeres; Samardzic, Lamza, Zambata (Musovic), Melic, Skoblar.

JUNE 25

Scotland (1) **1** (Chalmers) 74,000
Brazil (1) **1** (Servilho)

Scotland: Ferguson; Greig, Bell; Bremner, McKinnon, Clark; Scott, Cooke, Chalmers, Baxter, Cormack.
Brazil: Gylmar; Fidelis, Paulo Henrique; Zito (Lima), Bellini, Orlando; Jairzinho, Gerson, Servilho (Silva), Pele, Amarildo.

JUNE 26

Portugal (1) **3** (Torres 3) 35,000
Uruguay (0) **0**

Portugal: Carvalho; Morais, Hilario; Jaime Graça (Pinto), Baptista, Vicente; Jose Augusto (Manuel Duarte), Eusebio, Torres (Figueiredo), Coluna, Simoes.
Uruguay: Taibo; Martinez, Emilio Alvarez; Ubinas, Manicera, Mujica; Viera (Ramos), Urruzmendi, Sacia, Eliseo Alvarez, Esparrago.

Finland (0) **0** 10,000
England (2) **3** (Peters, Hunt, Charlton J.)

Finland: Halme; Mäkipää, Aho; Kautonen, Kanerva, Kilponen; Kumpulampi, Mäkelä, Hyvärinen, Laine, Hyttinen.
England: Banks; Armfield, Wilson; Peters, Charlton (J.), Hunter; Callaghan, Hunt, Charlton (R.), Hurst, Ball.

Denmark (0) **0** 27,500
Norway (0) **1** (Stavrum)

Denmark: Nielsen; Hansen (J.), Hartwig; Petersen (J.), Larsen, Hansen (J. J.); Paulsen, Sorensen, Enoksen, Sondergaard, Le Fevre.
Norway: Andersen; Johansen (R.), Mathiesen; Pedersen (A.), Thorsen, Stakseth; Sunde, Stavrum, Berg, Nielsen, Johansen (E.).

JUNE 29

Sweden (1) **1** (Nilden) 15,000
Yugoslavia (0) **1** (Samardzic)

Sweden: Pettersen; Karlsson, Rolf Bjorklundt; Nilden, Axelsson, Johanasson; Magnusson, Kindvall, Simonsson (Carlsson), Eriksson, Svahn.
Yugoslavia: Pantelic; Ramljak, Jeftic; Gugleta, Vasovic, Sekeres; Samardzic, Masovic, Melic, Skoblar, Djajic.

Norway (1) **1** (Sunde) 34,000
England (5) **6** (Greaves 4, Connelly, Moore)

Norway: Andersen (Kaspersen); Johansen (R.), Mathiesen; Pedersen, Thorsen, Stakseth; Sunde, Berg, Stavrum, Nilsen, Johansen (E.).
England: Springett; Cohen, Byrne; Stiles, Flowers, Moore; Paine, Greaves, Hunt, Charlton (R.), Connelly.

Italy (2) **5** (Bulgarelli 2, Rivera 2, Mazzola) 55,000
Mexico (0) **0**

Italy: Albertosi (Anzolin); Burgnich (Bertini), Facchetti; Rosato, Salvadore, Fogli; Meroni, Bulgarelli (Lodetti), Mazzola, Rivera, Pascutti (Barison).
Mexico: Calderon; Chaires, Pena; Nunez (Del Muro), Hernandez, Diaz; Ruvalcaba (Mercado), Munoz (Padilla), Cisneros, Fragoso, Jara.

JUNE 30

Sweden (0) **2** (Kindvall 2) 46,000
Brazil (1) **3** (Tostao 2, Gerson)

Sweden: Pettersen; Karlsson, Bjorklundt; Nilden, Axelsson, Johanasson; Magnusson, Kindvall, Simonsson, Eriksson, Svahn.
Brazil: Gilmar; Fidelis, Paulo Henrique; Lima, Bellini, Orlando; Jairzinho, Gerson, Tostao, Pele, Parana.

JULY 2

East Germany (2) **5** (Noeldner, Frenzel, Vogel, Fraessdorf, Geisler) 45,000
Chile (0) **2** (Tobar pen., Marcos)

East Germany: Weigang; Fraessdorf, Geisler; Pankau, Walter, Koerner; Engelhardt (Ducke), Noeldner, Frenzel, Erler, Vogel.
Chile: Godoy; Eyzaguirre (Valentini), Villanueva; Cruz, Figueroa, Marcos; Fouilloux (Araya), Prieto, Tobar, Ramirez (Landa), Sanchez.

JULY 3

Denmark (0) **0** 32,000
England (1) **2** (Charlton J., Eastham)

Denmark: Nielsen; Hansen, Hartwig; Petersen, Boel, Moeller; Schmidt, Steen-Olsen, Enoksen, Sondergaard, Le Fevre.
England: Bonetti; Cohen, Wilson; Stiles, Charlton (J.), Moore; Ball, Greaves Hurst, Eastham, Connelly.

Portugal (1) **1** (Torres) 25,000
Rumania (0) **0**

Portugal: Americo; Festa, Cruz; Pinto, Germano, Jose Carlos; Duarte (Peres), Eusebio, Torres, Coluna, Jose Augusto.
Rumania: Ionescu; Popa, Moceanu; Ghergheli, Nunweiler, Greavu; Marcu (Stoisescu), Dobrin (Iancu), Dridea, Popescu, Sorin-Avram.

JULY 5

Poland (0) **0** 70,000
England (1) **1** (Hunt)

Poland: Szeja; Strzalkowski, Winkler; Brejza, Gmoch, Anczok; Galeczka, Lubanski, Suski, Liberda, Kowalik.
England: Banks; Cohen, Wilson; Stiles, Charlton (J.), Moore; Ball, Greaves, Charlton (R.), Hunt, Peters.

JULY 6

Denmark (0) **0** 12,000
Italy (3) **4** (Mazzola 3, Rivera)

Denmark: Nielsen; Larsen, Worbye; Petersen (J.), Helbrandt, Moeller; Landrup, Olsen (J.), Klint, Sondergaard, Machon.
Italy: Albertosi (Anzolin); Burgnich, Facchetti; Rosato, Salvadore (Janich), Fogli; Perani (Meroni), Lodetti, Mazzola, Rivera (Rizzo), Pascutti (Barison).

AUGUST 14

Norway (1) **1** (Pedersen) 10,000
Finland (0) **1** (Lindholm)

Norway: Kaspersen; Johansen (R.), Mathiesen; Pedersen (A.), Thorsen, Stakseth; Sunde, Berg, Stavrum, Nilsen (O.), Johansen (E.).
Finland: Näsman; Mäkipää, Nummila; Kautonen, Kanerva, Syrjävaara; Kumpulampi, Mäkelä, Lindholm, Pahlman, Laine.

SEPTEMBER 4

East Germany (3) **6** (Pankau, Erler 2, Vogel, Irmscher, Engelhardt) 18,000
U.A.R. (0) **0**

East Germany: Blochwitz; Fraessdorf, Geisler; Pankau, Urbanczyk, Walter; Engelhardt, Erler, Frenzel, Irmscher, Vogel.
U.A.R.: Khorseid; Bakry, El Bouri; Badawi, El Sherbini, El Fanagili; El Gohari, Caha, Riad, El Shazli, Farouk.

SEPTEMBER 7

Holland (1) **2** (Pijs, Cruyff) 65,000
Hungary (0) **2** (Molnar, Meszoly)

Holland: Pieters Graafland; Flinkevleugel, Veldhoen; Pijs, Schrijvers, Muller; Swart, Israel, Cruyff, Nuninga, Keizer.
Hungary: Szentmihalyi; Kaposzta, Ihasz; Varga, Meszoly, Sipos; Molnar, Bene, Albert, Farkas, Rakosi.

SEPTEMBER 11

East Germany (0) **2** (Erler, Koerner) 30,000
Poland (0) **0**

East Germany: Blochwitz; Fraessdorf, Geisler; Pankau, Urbanczyk, Koerner; Ducke (R.), Noeldner, Frenzel, Erler, Vogel.
Poland: Majcher; Strzalkowski, Anczok; Brejza, Oslizlo, Gmoch; Sadek, Suski, Szoltyslik, Liberda, Musialek.

SEPTEMBER 18

Finland (1) **2** (Laine, Makipaa) 20,000
Denmark (1) **1** (Jorgensen)

Finland: Näsman; Mäkipää, Nummila (Aho); Kautonen, Kanerva, Syrjävaara; Peltonen, Mäkelä, Lindholm, Pahlman, Laine.
Denmark: Nielsen; Hansen (J.), Hansen (J. J.); Andersen, Boel, Moeller; Schmidt, Jorgensen, Enoksen, Sondergaard, Le Fevre.

Norway (2) **2** (Hasund, Berg) 24,550
Sweden (0) **4** (Karlsson, Turesson 3)

Norway: Andersen; Johansen (R.), Mathiesen; Bornoe, Thorsen, Stakseth; Sunde, Hasund, Nielsen, Berg, Johansen (E.).
Sweden: Pettersen; Karlsson, Axelsson; Hultberg, Nordquist, Johansson; Martinsson, Turesson, Simonsson, Wallin, Svahn.

Austria (1) **2** (Flogel, Viehbock) 32,500
Holland (1) **1** (Van de Kuylen)

Austria: Pichler; Frolich, Gebhardt; Binder, Glechner, Sara; Flogel, Skocik, Viehbock, Buzek (Hiesel), Parits.
Holland: Pieters Graafland; Flinkevleugel, Veldhoen; Pijs, Schrijvers, Israel; Heijnen, Nuninga, Van de Kuylen, Muller (de Zoete), Aarts.

Yugoslavia (0) **1** (Musovic) 15,990
Russia (2) **2** (Krasnichy, Matwejev)

Yugoslavia: Pantelic; Milevoj, Brncic; Jeftic, Sekeres, Takac; Musovic, Becejac, Hasanagic, Trivic, Djajic.
Russia: Psennichikov; Ponomarev, Danilov (Getmanov); Voronin, Shesternev, Afonin; Matwejev, Sichinava, Bannikov, Krasnichy, Kazakov.

SEPTEMBER 21

Hungary (5) **6** (Albert 2, Meszoly, Bene, Farkas, Varga) 20,000
Denmark (0) **0**

Hungary: Szentmihalyi; Kaposzta, Ihasz; Mathesz, Meszoly, Matrai; Bene, Varga, Albert, Farkas, Molnar.
Denmark: Nielsen; Hansen (J.), Orbye; Andersen, Boel, Moller (N.); Hansen (B. S.), Moller (R.), Enoksen, Hansen (J. J.), Le Fevre.

East Germany (0) **2** (Noeldner, Frenzel) 20,000
Rumania (0) **0**

East Germany: Blochwitz; Fraessdorf, Geisler; Pankau, Walter, Korner; Ducke (R.), Noeldner, Frenzel, Erler, Vogel.
Rumania: Haidu (Ionescu); Greavu, Moceanu; Ghergheli, Nunweiler III, Dan Coe; Pircalab, Dridea, Badea (Jancu), Nunweiler IV, Sorin-Avram.

SEPTEMBER 28

Hungary (1) **4** (Farkas 4) 25,000
France (1) **2** (Gondet, Revelli)

Hungary: Szentmihalyi; Kaposzta, Ihasz; Meszoly, Matrai, Mathesz (Salgotargan); Molnar, Varga, Albert, Farkas, Korsos.
France: Carnus; Djorkaeff, Chorda; Suaudeau, Bosquier, Budzinski; Lech, Simon (Robin), Gondet, Revelli, Hausser.

OCTOBER 2

Poland (0) **4** (Jarosik, Liberda, Grzegorczyk, Sadek) 30,000
Luxembourg (0) **0**

Poland: Majcher; Strzalkowski, Brejza; Anczok, Orzechowski, Grzegorczyk; Szmidt, Sadek, Liberda, Jarosik, Kowalik.
Luxembourg: Stendebach; Kuffer, Konter; Jeitz, Hoffstetter, Schneider; Hardt, Hoffman (N.), Klein, Leonard, Dublin.

Finland (0) **0** 10,000
Austria (0) **0**

Finland: Näsman; Mäkipää, Nummila Kautonen, Kanerva, Syrjävaara; Peltonen, Mäkelä, Lindholm, Hyvärinen, Laine.
Austria: Pichler; Gebhardt, Binder; Hirnschrodt, Glechner, Sara; Flogel, Fritsch, Viehbock, Hormayer, Parits.

OCTOBER 5

Sweden (1) **4** (Lundblad, Kindvall, Turesson 2) 20,000
Austria (0) **1** (Flogel)

Sweden: Pettersen; Karlsson, Axelsson; Nordquist, Seelander, Nilden; Ohlberg, Turesson, Kindvall, Simonsson, Lundblad.
Austria: Pichler; Gebhardt, Viehbock; Hirnschrodt, Glechner, Wahl; Fritsch, Sturmberger, Sara, Flogel, Parits.

OCTOBER 12

Turkey (0) **0** 40,000
West Germany (1) **2** (Kuppers, Rupp)

Turkey: Turgay; Talat, Fehmi; Ayham, Yilmaz, Ercam; Ergin, Seref, Fevzi, Nevzat, Ayfer.
West Germany: Maier; Heideman, Hottges; Weber, Schulz, Grabowski; Kuppers, Muller, Netzer, Overath, Rupp.

OCTOBER 16

Russia (0) **0** 50,000
Turkey (1) **2** (Oghjun, Evzat)

Russia: Psennichikov; Afonin, Sosnikhin; Danilov, Chesternev, Sabo; Lonef, Porkuyan, Banischevski, Streltso, Matveyev.
Turkey: Turgay; Talat, Yilmaz; Fehmi, Ergian, Ayhan; Sheref, Evzat, Oghjun Fevzi, Faruk.

Greece (1) **2** (Alexiades 2) 32,000
Finland (0) **1** (Makipaa)

Greece: Ekonomopoulos; Kremidas, Skrekis; Balopoulos, Sourpis, Skevoflax; Domazos, Haitas, Alexiades, Papaoiannou, Simigdalas.
Finland: Näsman; Mäkipää, Nummila; Kautonen, Kanerva, Syrjävaara; Peltonen, Mäkelä, Tolsa, Hyvärinen, Laine.

OCTOBER 19

Yugoslavia (1) **1** (Dzajic) 6,577
Czechoslovakia (0) **0**

Yugoslavia: Pantelic; Milevoj (Rasovic), Jeftic; Sekeres, Milhajlovic, Holcer; Samardzic, Zambata (Santrac), Trivic (Melic), Bukal, Dzajic.
Czechoslovakia: Venzel; Lala, Novak (Horvath); Smolik (Taborsky), Popluhar, Hrdlicka; Vesely, Jokl (Schmidt), Kvasnak, Adamec, Kuna.

OCTOBER 22

N. Ireland (0) **0** 48,600
England (1) **2** (Hunt, Peters)

N. Ireland: Jennings (McFaul); Parke, Elder; Todd, Harvey, McCullough; Ferguson, Crossan, Irvine, Dougan, Best.
England: Banks; Cohen, Wilson; Stiles, Charlton (J.), Moore; Ball, Hunt, Charlton (R.), Hurst, Peters.

Wales (0) **1** (Davies R.) 32,500
Scotland (0) **1** (Law)

Wales: Sprake; Rodrigues, Williams; Hennessey, England, Hole; Rees, Jones, Davies (W.), Davies (R.), Reece.
Scotland: Ferguson; Greig, Gemmell; Bremner, McKinnon, Clark; Johnstone, Law, McBride, Baxter, Henderson.

France (1) **2** (Lech, Di Nallo) 22,000
Poland (0) **1** (Grzegorczyk)

France: Carnus; Djorkaeff, Chorda; Budzinski, Suaudeau, Herbert; Simon, Robin, Lech, Di Nallo, Courtin.
Poland: Gomola; Strzalkowski, Anczok; Grzegorczyk, Oslizlo, Gmoch; Suski, Sadek, Lubanski, Liberda, Jarosik

Belgium (0) **1** (Claessen) 13,000
Switzerland (0) **0**

Belgium: Nicolay; Heylens, Bare; Hanon, Plaskie, Van Moer; Semmeling, Jurion, Claessen, Stockman, Thio.
Switzerland: Prosperi; Fuhrer, Perround; Stierli, Bani, Odermatt; Schnyder, Hertig, Blattern, Quentin, Schindelholz.

OCTOBER 23

Eire (0) **0** 38,000
Spain (0) **0**

Eire: Kelly; Dunne, Brennan; Conway, Cantwell, Meagan; O'Neill, McEvoy, Tracey, Giles, O'Connell.
Spain: Iribar; Sanchis, Reija; Glaria, Santamaria, Violeta; Vava, Luis, Ansola, Marcial, Paquito.

Russia (1) **2** (Streltzov, Chislenko) 35,000
East Germany (1) **2** (Fraessdorf, Frenzel)

Russia: Yashin; Andreyuk, Danilov; Medvid, Khurtsilava (Afonin), Sosnikhin; Sabo, Bishovets, Streltzov, Porkuyan (Yevryuzhikhin), Chislenko.
East Germany: Blochwitz; Fraessdorf, Geisler; Pankau, Walter, Koerner; Pvscher (Ducke), Noeldner, Frenzel, Erler, Vogel.

OCTOBER 26

Denmark (0) **3** (Hansen J., Moeller, Thorst) 14,000
Israel (0) **1** (Nosche Assis)

Denmark: Nielsen; Hansen (J.), Worbye; Hartwig, Boel, Hansen (J. J.); Schmidt, Wiberg, Moeller, Thorst, Le Fevre.
Israel: Viscoker; Primo, Bello; Ben Boruck, Shvager, Rosenthal; Talbi, Nosche Assis, Stelmach, Spiegler, Young.

OCTOBER 30

Hungary (0) **3** (Farkas 3) 25,000
Austria (0) **1** (Wolny)

Hungary: Gelei; Bakos, Ihasz; Mathesz, Sipos, Meszoly (Bene); Molnar, Puskas, Albert, Farkas, Rakosi.
Austria: Pichler; Breibert (Gerhardt), Viehbock; Hirnschrodt, Glechner, Dirnberger; Parits, Sturmberger, Wolny, Flogel, Sauer.

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Fresh approach is needed

Feature by ERIC BATTY

IN the old days of open football much thought was given to the play in midfield. Now in the modern game with its emphasis on defence, it matters little what is done or not done in midfield. What counts today is what goes on in and around the penalty areas at each end of the pitch.

Though it would be wrong to disregard midfield completely because the links joining the two major units in the team are still important, the real problems in the game are centred on the vital area around the penalty spot.

Much has been written and "said" about open spaces ... using them, running into them, etc., but one of the truths of the modern game is bound up in the fact that "If a space is open, then it is of no importance". The really important spaces are never left open, they are occupied by burly defenders. Thus we can say that a team which concentrates on using the open spaces might well "appear" to be a good team — but the real top notchers are those who concentrate on opening the spaces that are occupied. These are the spaces which really count; opening them is the art of the game.

Goal-scoring is the object of football, and it is a fact that very few goals are scored from the half-way line or near the corner flags. The vast majority of goals are scored from within an area we could term the "shooting area".

To define this shooting area we could pace out eight yards from each goalpost moving towards the corner flags. Having marked our new eight-yard spots draw two lines at right angles to the goal line and extend these lines out into the field of play for 25 yards. We can complete the shooting area now by joining the two new lines with a line which would be parallel to the goal line.

This shooting area would perhaps make a better penalty area than that which has been accepted for years by the authorities, but disregarding that particular point there is no doubt that in the modern game this is the area in which games are won and lost. This is where goals are made and given away. This is where we should concentrate our efforts.

Looking at this question from the defenders' viewpoint, they don't really mind their opponents having possession of the ball, and they are quite pleased when the enemy elects to give easy balls to each other *in front of the defence*. They will stand and watch this all afternoon. They become just a little more anxious if they are forced to give ground and fall back on their goal, but a well organised defence drops back naturally and in a disciplined fashion. All the while midfield players are getting back into defensive positions to bolster the defenders' morale and make a clean break less likely. On the edge of their penalty area, the retreat is halted —not because their manager has ordered it, but because there isn't any more unwanted space.

Everything—every inch which is now at the defenders' backs is vital—and it must be defended. If the enemy wants to occupy any space within what I have termed the shooting area they are going to earn it. They must fight for it.

Now the attacking team faces a very difficult task, for in a well organised defence comprising seven or eight players there is little room to manœuvre. There is no open space, no attacking player unmarked. Dribbling through or passing through the wall is now doubly difficult for the defenders are so closely packed to cover the vital space (and each other) that they can almost reach out and join hands.

In this situation luck is indispensable if a goal is to result. Only with luck can a goal be scored against a well packed, deep and reinforced defence. Goals do come sometimes — through deflected shots, through "bad" bounces, from goalkeeping errors and from premature tackles—but we cannot count on luck being with us every week.

We must reorganise, we must think afresh. We must go back to midfield and reflect on the problems we meet when, like a giant steamroller, we have pushed the defenders back as far as they are willing to go.

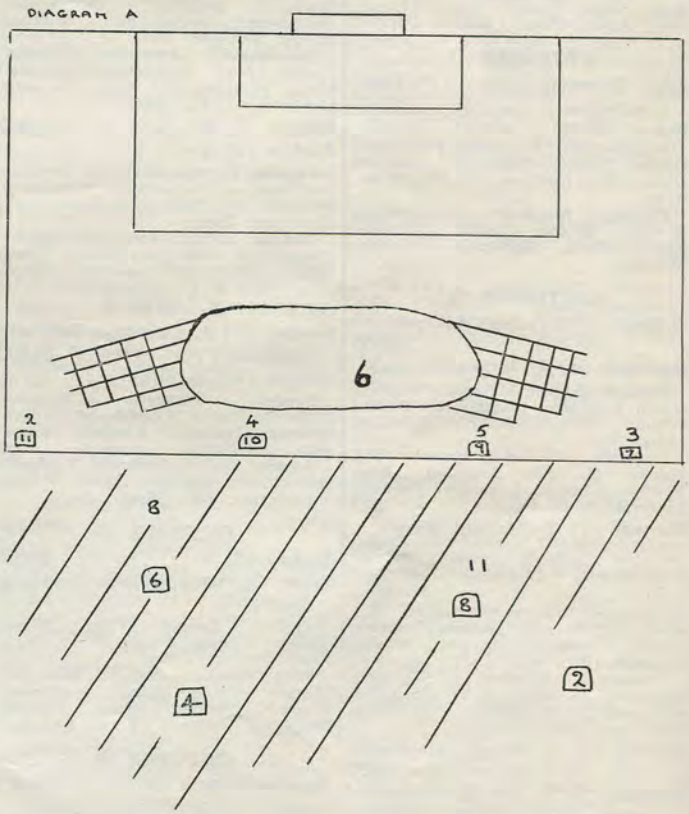
Right at the heart of this problem is the devil which has faced us since the 1920s when the old offside rule was changed. To stop the rush of goals which followed the change, Herbert Chapman introduced us to the stopper centre-half. Essentially, the stopper was big, strong, fearless and very good in the air. He did his job—he stopped us scoring goals against his team. Since the appearance of the stopper the game has been faced with a new problem, but many people have still not discovered the crux of the "new" game. Until we realise why the stopper was created and what his duties were, we will not understand why it was necessary to introduce a second centre-back (in 4-2-4) or a third centre-back as in *catenaccio*.

The key to it all is space. Vital space which always lies immediately behind the centre-back(s).

The stopper of Herbert Chapman's creation had two major roles: (a) to mark the opposing centre-forward and (b) to cover the vital space. Until the creation of the withdrawn centre-forward, the stopper was able to fill both roles quite adequately because the "tank-type" centre-forward played in the area which the stopper was designated to cover. Thus at one time the stopper could do both jobs. When this was realised many teams began to "attack" the centre-half, attempting to draw him out of position. Some centre-forwards did this by roving to the wings (taking the stopper with them) and leaving the inside-forwards to exploit the space created.

Now we could say that we were using two centre-forwards. One was used to draw the centre-half away from the vital space, while the other disguised as an inside-forward, tried to score goals like the old-time tank.

From this point on, it was accepted that one centre-half was not enough. The second centre-half was born, created by adapting a wing-half to play a fully defensive role. This was the



prime defensive feature of 4-2-4. When one centre-back was drawn out, the other centre-back covered the space.

For a while, the 4-2-4 defensive system seemed to have settled the balance in favour of the defenders, but it was soon realised that though the problem seemed to be different when faced by two stoppers, it was in reality unchanged. They were both attempting to mark men (one of the two central spearheads) *and cover the vital space.*

Just as the old stopper could be drawn away by a wily centre-forward, so two wily centre-forwards could draw their two shadows away. This left the vital space undefended if another player (from midfield) broke through the middle and received an accurate pass.

Now we come to the ultimate answer ... *catenaccio.* The keys here are three: twin stoppers to tight-mark the two tank type centre-forwards and a free-back to cover the vital space. "Free" because he had no one to mark and could not therefore be drawn out of position, and also "free" because his secondary role was to pick up anyone who tried to sneak into the vital space "free" from the attentions of any other defender.

Now we come to the real point of this article. Just as it seemed after 4-2-4 that the defensive problems were different, so it appears that the free-back has made it impossible to penetrate down the middle. This was not so after the creation of the twin stoppers, and I believe it is not so now with the free-back. The problem remains the same as it was in the 1930s ... to create a shooting space in what I have called "the shooting area".

The problem remains the same today, but vastly more complicated. To beat the stopper centre-half we attacked him and drew him out. To beat the twin stoppers we attacked them and drew them out. To beat the three centre-half plan (*catenaccio*) *we must attack them.*

Today most people have taken a quick look at a massed defence, shuddered and thought to themselves "impossible". We cannot go through the middle and the only answer then left is to try to circumnavigate the defensive bloc. We have taken what appears to be the easy way out, by attempting to penetrate on the flanks. We do not attack the three centre-halves until we find ourselves out near the corner flags or just outside the penalty area. Then we face a solid wall of defenders clustered immediately in front of their goal. They are almost impregnable.

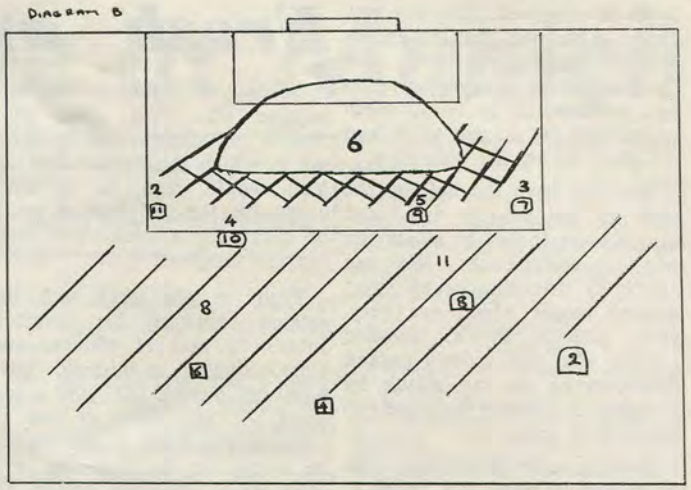
'To beat the three centre half plan we must attack them'

If we go back to the moment when we gained possession of the ball, deep in our half, we would find the enemy defenders disposed roughly according to the sketch labelled Diagram A. In front of the defensive wall there are open spaces, and while some enemy players might be in those areas they are not, or should not, be interested in the ball. Their job in the modern game is now to get back into a defensive position "goal-side" of the ball.

OPEN SPACES

Immediately behind the wall of defenders we have more important spaces. The areas on the flanks are important spaces—important to the full-back because he would be terrified to find an opponent with the ball in that space which is behind him. In the centre we find what I have described as vital space—vital because this space lies on the direct road to goal and any free enemy there (in possession) would have an open path to the shooting area. These are the spaces that the enemy will fight for. He doesn't want the open spaces in front of him because they are no threat to his goal ... they are useless.

In a recent article I criticised the England performance against Czechoslovakia and, to a lesser extent, that against Wales. On both occasions England repeatedly "entertained" their public with a flurry of easy passes in the open spaces. Stiles, Cohen, Charlton, Moore and Peters all took part in these exercises which drew murmurs of appreciation from the fans, and a big groan from me. I was bored ... because I want to see the centre-backs attacked. Because this is the modern road to goal and exchanging short passes in the midfield open spaces is useful only as a time-waster when we are winning and the prime purpose is to keep the ball.



As the easy pass move gathers momentum, the front men (the strikers) begin to move off towards the enemy goal. The defenders marking them respond to this by giving ground, and thus the midfield players find they have an easy unopposed area to play in. The enemy have withdrawn from midfield when danger threatened—because midfield is no use to them anyway. They give it up willingly to concentrate on the important spaces and vital spaces. Pop, pop, pop go the easy passes from Moore, to Charlton, to Cohen and as they move forward the enemy defenders withdraw to their penalty area. Now we find the situation very similar to the sketch I have called Diagram B. The important spaces and vital

● *Continued overleaf*

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Fresh approach is needed

Continued from previous page

space have moved. They are now closer to the goal, but the enemy are still occupying them. We have achieved nothing, save to win a matter of 20 or 30 yards which was (a) no use to us and (b) given up by the defenders.

We now have the ball on the edge of the penalty area, and now we are forced to attack the trio of centre-backs. We can attack by dribbling or by short ground passes which are very, very difficult in a crowded penalty area with closely packed defenders or we can attack by chipping or lobbing high balls to the penalty spot.

Dealing with these high balls or crosses is bread and butter to goalkeepers and the trio of centre-backs. This is their livelihood ... and they are all 6 ft. tall or more. Centre-backs are judged, paid, bought and sold on their ability to deal with the ball when it is in the air. Why fight with them on terms that suit them? Why not try and make things really difficult for them? Why not attack them out in the open?

ATTACK

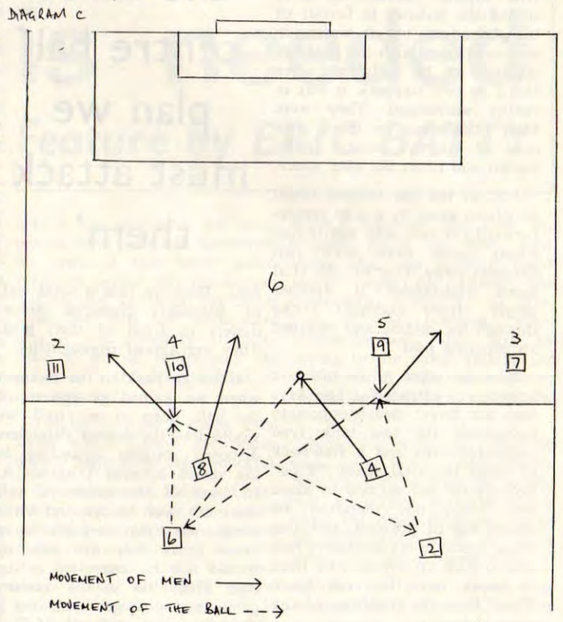
Out in midfield the spaces are bigger, and there is more room to play the ball low (to feet) and in this aspect of the game most centre-backs are no match for most good class centre-forwards. We must attack the central trio on or around the half-way line—as Hidegkuti attacked Johnstone at Wembley in 1953. What Hidegkuti did to the England centre-half could have been done by two Hidegkutis to two England centre-backs. They could both have been taken for a walk.

You would be entitled to think that perhaps it would not be so easy, that defenders would not be so gullible, but repeatedly I have seen that it can be done. Even 20 years ago English centre-halves were being told "stick with Tom Lawton, even if he goes and sits in the stand". In these days it is just as easy and anyone who sees Inter play should pay attention to the manner in which the Italians line up. You would then be in little doubt that Inter defenders could be taken for a walk—and Inter are the toughest!

Right at the start with the referee checking his watches, Inter's 10 and 11 (Suarez and Corso) line up in midfield. Inter have no outside-left you might think ... but there is one in Giacinto Facchetti. At the whistle he stands on the half-way line, shoulder to shoulder, toe to toe with the opposing right-winger. Tight marking from the very first second. He can be taken anywhere. Ultimately, I am sure that the defensive game will go back to the old zonal system but this will not happen until we have proved that tight man-for-man marking and the free-back do not pay. To achieve this we must attack the centre-back trio where they are vulnerable ... on the ground in midfield.

Now we come to the crunch. Instead of gently pushing the defensive wall back, instead of the exchange of purposeless "easy" passes in midfield let us design a really modern streamlined, intelligent, effective assault on the three centre-halves.

To commit them on the half-way line we must bring the two centre-forwards into the game, for the defenders will not be drawn by anyone else. Imagine Moore has the ball, and instead of the square ball to Charlton, Moore gives a good ball up to Hunt, dropped 10 yards short for Hunt to drop back for. With the right centre-back at his elbow, Hunt goes to meet the ball; screening it from his shadow and gives it back first-time to Cohen who has moved up "free" into an open, and apparently useless, space. Hunt having made his appearance moves off left (taking the right centre-back with him).



Now the ball goes from Cohen—whom we shall allow two touches—one to control the ball, the other to give a good ball (as Moore did) but this time to Hurst. Dropping back to meet the ball, Hurst draws out the left centre-back, screens and plays back to Moore. Then Hurst makes his exit towards the right wing (taking the left centre-back).

"EASY" BALL

Meanwhile, Bobby Charlton, and Stiles (or some other wing-half) would not be idle. Not needing to position themselves for the old "easy" ball move they would be free to position themselves ... poised for the blow that is now imminent.

In this fraction of a second we can see that the old free-back (6) is quite alone. As lonely a figure as the old now outdated centre-half in the pre-Hidegkuti era. Charlton sails through the middle, and the free-back sees him coming. He won't move to meet him for his job is to mark space, but he will be committed to Charlton who leaves space behind him for Stiles (or some other wing-half) steaming in Charlton's wake to pick up the pass from Cohen (or some other full-back). Here we go with the final touch ... Cohen to Stiles and picking the ball up in his stride, our wing-half is now in a very strong position. With Charlton he makes a pair—a two on one against the free-back.

This will no doubt seem complicated to the unbelievers to the anti-coaching critics but in this basic move we have the future of the game. It can be varied, indeed it *must* be varied, but generally this is the way. For a really well organised team there is one final touch. Just in case the full-backs should be super-intelligent we can have our wingers doing a 40-yard scissor—not moving towards goal—but racing across the pitch, and changing wings (see Diagram C).

It is no good objectors arguing that professional footballers are not intelligent enough to digest the message that is contained in the typical anti-*catenaccio* move just explained. If the players cannot understand the principles of the game they must go, to make room for someone who can. After all, for £100 a week (in England) or £200 a week in Italy, we can afford to be choosy.

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West German Newsletter

Trouble at Munich

by ARTHUR ROTMIL

WITH the championship just past the half-way mark, the battle for honours is really hotting up but it would be premature, at this stage, to limit the choice of contenders for the Bundesliga title. Following a three-week break over Christmas and the New Year, the programme was resumed on January 7.

Despite atrocious conditions (including snow and ice) on most grounds, the forwards enjoyed a field day having scored 39 goals in nine matches (average 4.33 per game!). The grand slam was executed by Borussia Mönchen-Gladbach who annihilated Schalke to the tune of 11-0 — a new record Bundesliga win, while next best of the day was Borussia Dortmund's 5-0 triumph over Fortuna at Düsseldorf.

Main interest centred naturally around the leaders Eintracht Brunswick, whose 3-2 win at Bremen gave them a two-point lead at the top. Thus they continue to surprise the experts and indeed themselves by their remarkable consistency. Fine team work, stamina and discipline are the chief qualities of this team without stars. Whether they can last the pace is of course quite another matter, but they have done enough already to satisfy even the most discriminate fans.

Close behind are Eintracht Frankfurt who made a quick trip to North Africa and Asia over the holidays but on return slumped to an amazing 2-6 defeat in a Cup-qualifying game to Regional League team Hessen, at Kassel! Hamburger SV's run of success has coincided with the return after injury of international outside-left Gerd Dörfel, whose younger brother Bernd gained his first cap in Germany's last match v. Norway, but the principal stars of Hamburg are World Cup men Willi Schulz and the astonishing Uwe Seeler.

At the "wrong" end of the table, only one (!) point covers the last *eight* teams and now it is anybody's guess as to who will drop out at the end. Lack of success has already caused the downfall of three managers beginning with FC Nürnberg's Hungarian-born Jenö Csaknady who was replaced by his compatriot Jenö Vincze. Next to go: VfB Stuttgart's volatile boss Rudi Gutendorf who has accepted a coaching post with a Chicago High School in the USA. His place has been taken by Albert Sing who left the Swiss club Grasshoppers recently. But the biggest bombshell came from champions 1860 Munich with the instant dismissal of their Austrian-born "dictator" Max Merkel, the highest paid manager in the country. Merkel first announced that he would resign at the end of the season but matters came to a head in mid-December, when it was put to the players whether they wanted him to carry on that long. Merkel's biggest foe, Yugoslav-born goalkeeper Petar Radenkovic led the revolt of the players who decided by 14 votes to 3 in favour of an immediate sacking!

In the meantime, 1860's chairman Herr Adalbert Wetzel had also resigned and now the affairs of the club are in the hands of a six-man committee. New team manager will be Günter Baumann — provided his present employers FC Schweinfurt agree to release him. Merkel didn't have to wait long to find another post and as from January 2, he manages Nürnberg who promptly demoted Vincze to coaching their amateurs!

Finally news of an unusual step by Meidericher SV who decided to change their name and as from now will be known as MSV-Duisburg.

BUNDESLIGA

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P.
E. Brunswick ...	18	10	4	4	29	14	24
E. Frankfurt ...	17	9	4	4	35	21	22
Hamburger SV ..	18	8	6	4	24	20	22
Bor. Mön.-Glad.	18	7	7	4	40	21	21
Hannover "96"	18	8	5	5	24	21	21
Bayern Munich .	18	9	2	7	37	26	20
1860 Munich ...	18	8	4	6	32	28	20
1. FC Kaiser. ...	18	6	7	5	25	27	19
Bor. Dortmund	17	7	4	6	33	23	18
1. FC Cologne .	17	6	4	7	23	27	16
1. FC Nürnberg	17	5	5	7	24	28	15
Werder Bremen	18	6	3	9	32	34	15
Rot-Weiss Essen	18	5	5	8	20	24	15
MSV Duisburg .	18	4	7	7	17	25	15
Schalke 04	18	6	3	9	19	38	15
VfB Stuttgart ..	18	4	6	8	26	37	14
Karlsruher SC ..	18	4	6	8	24	36	14
F. Düsseldorf ...	18	5	4	9	23	37	14

Mexican Tour Defeat

SWITZERLAND'S sporting community is normally enjoying more seasonal pastimes such as ice hockey, skiing, skating and a multitude of other winter sports following the usual suspension of football activities from mid-December until March.

This time however, the soccer fans were not allowed to forget their favourite sport for the national side took a trip to Mexico in the New Year with a full international — by way of return for Mexico's visit to Lausanne in June—plus a representative game to follow.

These matches aroused considerable interest in most European countries because of the next World Cup due to be held in Mexico City and the conflicting views being aired on the question of altitude and general conditions. But with most of the Swiss players already missing a regular training schedule and the team arriving barely 48 hours before the first match, without the benefit of acclimatisation, it was obvious that this would not be a fair trial.

Before a crowd of 40,000 and referee Yamazaki (Peru), the team lined up in the beautiful Azteca-stadium as follows: Prosperi; Fuhrer, Tacchella, Armbruster, Stierli; Odermatt, Dürr; Gottardi, Künzli, Hosp, Quentin.

It soon became evident that the rarefied air would prove a major handicap to most Swiss, even though they are reared in a mountainous country, on a considerably higher altitude than, for example, England or even Germany. Neither the whiffs of oxygen, nor the three changes at half-time — Bäni for Dürr, Grünig for Odermatt and Blättler for Künzli — made much difference as the Swiss went down by 0-3, to goals from Pereda and Borja 2.

But three days later at Guadalajara, which is "only" 5,000 feet up, a slightly changed XI caused a minor sensation by beating Mexico's B-team (which included three men from the first encounter), 2-0 with goals from Hosp and Blättler. This was a vastly improved performance and a great tonic for the whole expedition.

At home, before the mid-winter break, in the 2nd Round proper of the SFV-Pokal (Cup), league leaders FC Basle confirmed their dominating role in Swiss football at the moment, by eliminating the holders and champions FC Zürich by 3-2. Other surprises were the defeat of Young Boys (1-3) by lowly Winterthur and Young Fellows (0-3) at the hands of Second Division Bellinzona.

But the most amazing match took place between FC Sion at home to Second Division leaders Lucerne, who lost *five* men through various injuries inside *five minutes!* — leaving referee Herr Scheurer no alternative, but to abandon the game ten minutes from time in accordance with the rules whereby a team cannot continue with less than seven players. The fun started in the 75th minute with Sion leading 2-0 and Lucerne's Hasler, Orpi and Schüwig carried or taken off the field in quick succession. Four minutes later, Bruttin put Sion three up, but almost at once Gwerder and Lustenberger also went out causing the stoppage amidst pandemonium in the stands. Now, the SFV will hold an enquiry to find out whether all these injuries were genuine or cunningly conceived to have a losing game stopped.

Lastly, news of an important transfer: World Cup star Heinz Bäni left FC Zürich to join Chaux-de-Fonds for a fee of £7,500 — chicken feed by English or Italian standards!

NATIONAL LEAGUE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P.
Basel	14	9	4	1	37	10	22
Zürich	13	9	1	3	35	19	19
Lugano	14	7	4	3	26	20	18
Grasshoppers ...	13	7	2	4	29	12	16
Young Boys ...	13	5	5	3	26	24	15
Chaux-de-Fonds	13	6	1	6	22	21	13
Lausanne	14	5	3	6	27	20	13
Servette	14	5	3	6	21	19	13
Young Fellows .	13	4	4	5	18	22	12
Sion	13	3	5	5	18	20	11
Biel	13	4	2	7	12	19	10
Grenchen	13	4	2	7	17	27	10
Winterthur	13	4	1	8	15	26	9
Moutier	13	2	1	10	9	53	5

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Glentoran's term of achievement

IRISH NEWS by Colin McAlpin

THE most heartening news to take Northern Ireland football officials into 1967 came from Irish League secretary Jimmy Long. It was that followers of the game in the Province are flocking back in their thousands. Mr. Long, releasing figures for the period from November 26 up to the Christmas games, revealed that there was an increase of 20,000, and in the first half of the Irish League championship programme of 22 games returns went up by the same figure. In the case of the first set of figures the exact period covered six weeks during which two matches were postponed owing to bad weather.

The hard-working secretary commented: "This is an obvious indication that the standard of play has been improving and the public are clearly satisfied with the high-quality football which has been offered in many matches this season. It's a very welcome development."

The bigger crowds are being drawn because of the neck-and-neck race for the title which has developed between Belfast's "Big Two", Linfield (the holders of the title) and Glentoran (the team of the season who, as I write at the start of January, have suffered only one defeat in domestic competitions).

These teams always had a large following even in the days when fortune wasn't smiling so sweetly as she is now. Now, with their great successes, even more are turning out to watch. And wherever the Blues and the Glens go other clubs benefit with packed houses and overflowing coffers.

Outside of the two pace-setters and Derry City, now well over a bad patch and basking in the glory of being the first local side to beat Glentoran (1-0) and upset Linfield's much improved team (5-2), several other clubs are showing improved form and getting solid, if not amazing, gates. Football, it seems, is on the up and up in Ulster.

That Championship title could go now to either Linfield or Glentoran with the Londonderry side not far away from the final reckoning. After the Christmas games, when the race is usually won and lost, still only a matter of a couple of points separated the Glens (26 points from 16 games) and the Blues (24 points from 16 games). Derry were in third place with 20 points from 15 games and, with that improvement in form, always ready to take advantage of the slightest slip by the leaders.

While the Windsor Park outfit have been keeping up a hot pace it's been the Ovalites who have always looked more potentially the Championship winners. The Linfield side stutters sometimes to shock, and upsetting defeats, while the Glentoran side, looking on that defeat at Brandywell Road as a relief, have gone from strength to strength, always looking that much better than Linfield and always looking that much more certain to be the title-holders when it's all over.

It's going to be either Glentoran or Linfield, with City as outsiders, for the Gibson Cup (the trophy that goes with the title) and I'll stick to my original forecast and put my shirt on the Glens. They are a much more consistent side than the Blues!

With the Championship passing the 16 games mark it was obvious that Bangor and an improving Cliftonville would be asking to be let in again next term. For the Reds the season has been something of a turning-point; there is, beyond any doubt, a new wave of hope at Solitude under coach Jackie Cummings. The Cliftonville defence has emerged as a solid unit and the forwards, with a bit more luck and effort, might have brought more points to a side that is, happily, no longer considered a push-over by the majority of teams visiting the North Belfast area.

But Bangor remain terrible. Hammered for 11 by Distillery and 10 by Glenavon, the Clandeboye Park side have the dismal record of two wins, one draw and 13 defeats for a goal record of 21 for and 73 against. The Reds had one victory and four draws to their credit with a goals for and against record of 14 and 36.

At the 16 games post the side with the second poorest defensive record was Crusaders with 45 against. Happily the forwards are still managing to keep their end looking reasonably healthy with 37 which, over all, worked out at about average.

Glenavon, who no longer even manage to play good football in their moments of defeat, had a bit of a shock just before the New Year when it was announced that Distillery, without a manager for a long time and badly in need of one, had approached Jimmy McAlinden. McAlinden, you may remember, said last season that he was considering not only giving up his job as boss of the Lurgan side but of quitting football altogether. He was talked into remaining at Mourneview Park and, to be frank, the story of his being approached by the Whites came as a shock to everybody concerned and was quickly dismissed as the inane ramblings of local newspapers anxious, in the welter of pre-Christmas trivia, for a dramatic story to set the football world on its ear.

The upshot of it all was that McAlinden is still at Lurgan and the Grosvenor Park club is still scouting about for a boss to help lift them out of the mire.

Ballymena United appointed Norman Clarke as manager just a matter of weeks after he had returned to the mid-Antrim town from Sunderland where, following a serious leg injury, it was thought his career was finished. He fitted fairly successfully into the set-up at the Showgrounds and landed the job.

Portadown, the third Irish League club seeking a manager for some weeks now, are still not fixed up and news on this subject has been a little on the low side—a bit like the fortunes of the club since Charlie Tully walked out after being bothered by members of one of the Shamrock Park supporters' clubs.

Writing of Tully makes me wonder why Distillery haven't approached him to come to Grosvenor as manager. With his experience—Glasgow Celtic and Ireland—he seems to be an obvious choice.

Looking at the League table I noticed that Ards, once challenging for the title, have slipped badly down the ratings. They were in fourth from bottom position after 15 games. The Castlereagh Park club battled through a long-drawn-out Gold Cup semi-final against Crusaders which, after two games, was still not decided. By the time you read this the result will probably be known and Ards could be in a position to offer their supporters some consolation.

Alas, 1967 sees no wind of change as far as the Irish Football Association are concerned. This body has managed to make Linfield look just about the silliest club in Europe with an out-dated rule that forbids Sunday football.

The story is this: towards the beginning of January Linfield were invited to co-operate with League of Ireland club Shamrock Rovers in sending a joint team to take part in the spring tournament that is planned to launch Association football in the United States. It would have meant lots of money for the Blues and a trip-of-a-lifetime for about six or seven players and a couple of officials. It would also have meant that Linfield were represented at a moment of history making.

But there was one snag—the team would be required to play some of the games on a Sunday and as far as the IFA was concerned this was *out*. For Linfield, the best supported club in the Irish League, there was also the problem of having to associate themselves with a mainly Catholic side. As the Blues thrive on an ardent Protestant support and as they have an unwritten rule forbidding them to sign Catholics (though when it suits them this rule can be dropped) the trouble was all too obvious.

As I write, the Windsor Park club have not given any indication that they will not be going to the States but, with the two-fold problem confronting them, it seemed certain that the trip was off.

Shamrock will probably go anyway but there is now a move to have another Ulster side—Glentoran or Derry City—amalgamate for the trip.

For the life of me I cannot see why the IFA stick to this stupid rule of no Sunday football. They played Sunday soccer when they reached the World Cup Finals in Sweden in 1958, Belfast Celtic were allowed to play Sunday soccer when they visited the States in the 1940s—here is a golden opportunity for a Northern team to gain invaluable experience against some of Europe's top club sides, but that sickening rule stands in their way.

And the IFA must be slammed for not giving International team manager, Bertie Peacock, full powers when it comes to picking the side. At a recent meeting they decided to hold on to the job of selection.

These selectors waste valuable sums of money on trips to England and Scotland to look at players who are, already, established in the national side. These men should quit now and let a man with Peacock's experience get on with the job.

Glentoran certainly started something when they built a plush Social Centre under the Oval stand. It brought into the club lots of much-needed cash and now other clubs have realised the possibilities of having their own clubs for supporters.

Ards, now well and truly through their black patch and playing some of the most delightful football in Ulster, recently bought a three-storey building in Movilla Street at a cost of £4,000 and there a thriving Sports Club is taking shape. It is expected 500 people will eventually belong to the club, all paying an annual subscription of £2.

Chairman Harold Black told me recently: "We are well pleased with the speed at which this venture has been pushed along. There is great enthusiasm. The premises cost £4,000 and another £2,000 has already been used in renovation work. The outlay will probably be in the region of £8,000 but the facilities provided will make this expenditure well worth while."

Tommy Leishman, dark shirt, right foreground, scores Linfield's equaliser in their top of the table clash with Glentoran last November. Linfield are having to struggle behind Glens at the moment in a bid to retain their championship (M.P.I.)

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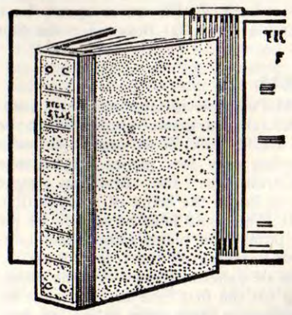

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AROUND THE WORLD STORIES

LUIS TOPS GOALS

ARGENTINA

RACING BUENOS AIRES clinched their claim to the championship after leading all the way, and finally set a new 61-point record. Racing also set a new pattern for the Argentinian game, being generally recognised as a team without stars. Only Perfumo was chosen for the 22-strong World Cup squad, and the best known player in the team is Humberto Maschio, back in Buenos Aires after eight years in Italy. Manager Jose Pizzuti is the strong man behind Racing's success, former captain of the national team in the later fifties. In 55 games Racing were beaten only once — 2-1 away to River Plate — but by then the club had already played 39 games without defeat. This beat the previous world best, set by Santos in 1961–62 with 38 unbeaten games in a row.

Luis Artime once more topped the scorers' list with 23 goals, followed by Racing's Martinoli with 18. In the 380 Division I matches only 888 goals were scored — an average of 2.3 per game, and the lowest ever. With the game switching to defence, goals were hard to find and though a big Buenos Aires bank offered a weekly 50,000 pesos (£90) to the scorer of the day's quickest goal, it made little difference.

Once the almost universal provider of talent, and certainly the game's biggest exporter, the Argentinians have now begun to import stars in a big way. In the championship just ended, 39 foreigners took part. Uruguay provided the bulk of these — 22 in all, with six from Paraguay, three each from Brazil and Spain, two each from Peru and Italy and one from Guatemala. Discipline improved, however — only 116 players were sent off last season.

Nestor Rossi, formerly attacking centre-half of River Plate FC, has left Buenos Aires for Colombia, where he takes over as manager of Millonarios CF, the club he once played for with Di Stefano and Pedernera. With regret we also record the death of 60-year-old Guillermo Stabile, top scorer in the 1930 World Cup with eight goals. "El infiltrador", as he was known in his playing days, Stabile starred with Genoa and Red Star (France) before the war and was manager of Argentina's national team from 1945 to 1958.

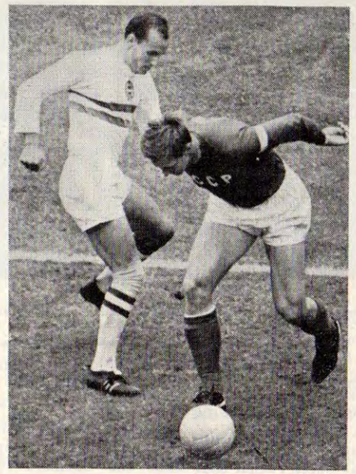
HOLLAND

AFTER their trouncing of Liverpool, champions Ajax Amsterdam steam on towards their second championship in a row. Dropping only four points in 18 games, they lead Feyenoord by four clear points and Sparta by six. The Ajax attack is the key to the club's success, with centre-forward Johan Cruyff the man everything hangs on. Only 20, Cruyff leads the goal-getters' race with 20 goals but was suspended from internationals by the KNVB after being sent off in the recent game with Czechoslovakia.

Three of the top four places in the scorers' list go to Ajax — Cruyff 20, Nuninga 16 and Swart 14, with Feyenoord's Harry Bild (from Sweden) also on 16. Bild's fellow countryman, Kindvall (also with Feyenoord), is the only other challenger, with 12.

Yugoslav players have long been popular in Holland, and immediately before Christmas two more joined Dutch clubs. The big signing was former Partizan left-half, Velibor Vasovic, star of his club's run to the European Cup Final last May. Twenty-six years old, Vasovic signed for Ajax and made his bow in the 8-0 win over Elinkwyk (Utrecht), currently bottom of the league. After that defeat Elinkwyk also entered the Yugoslav market, signing former Partizan reserve goalkeeper Jovan Curcic.

Vasovic was signed in time to play in the quarter-finals of the European Cup in March and is expected to make his début in this series away to Dukla in Prague. For this match, Dutch travel agents have asked Dukla for 8,000 tickets for the first leg.



Chesternev (right), seen here robbing a Hungarian forward during the World Cup, was voted into second place in Russia's player of the year poll. (M.P.I.)

BRAZIL

WITH Pelé now in Germany for a commercial course and rumoured to be booked for 1st FC Koln, and Garrincha (33) playing only four games for his new club Corinthians, the Brazilian game appears to be on the brink of a revolution. The year 1966 could later be seen to be the turning point with teams rather than individual stars taking all the top honours.

In Rio de Janeiro, Bangu won the championship for the first time in 33 years after being runner-up three times in the last four seasons. Flamengo and Fluminense, the most popular Rio clubs, just couldn't match Bangu's efficiency — 50 goals for and only eight against. The Sao Paulo championship again went to the "Italian" club, AC Palmeiras, with Corinthians second and Santos nowhere, while Cruzeiro carried off the championship in Minas Gerais, five points clear of Atletico — and added the CBD Cup for good measure. In the final, Cruzeiro outclassed Santos FC 6-2 and 3-2.

Now it is reported Santos are to spend at least £250,000 on new players, and it is said the club coach, Lula (Luiz Alonso Perez) will be going after 12 highly successful years.

YUGOSLAVIA

FOLLOWING the Sofia incident when half the chosen players failed to turn up for an international with Bulgaria, a new boss of the national team has been appointed. The new man is former international inside-forward star, Rajko Mitic, ex-manager of Red Star. The Belgrade club also lose their coach, Ivan Toplak, who is to join a US club in San Francisco.

Although Red Star have been in the doldrums for two or three years, their young left-winger, Dragan Djajic, has been voted Footballer of the Year — with Ilija Pantelic, goalkeeper captain of champions Vojvodina, runner-up.

A strange situation developed in the FA Cup in which reserve teams are also allowed to take part. Hajduk Split's Reserves have fought their way through the preliminary rounds to the quarter-finals — where they were drawn against ... Hajduk Split. After extra time the two teams were level at 2-2 and the replay will take place in March after the resumption of play. Already through to the semi-finals are the traditional Cup fighters Dynamo Zagreb, Rijeka FC and Lokomotive Zagreb.

After the success of Vojvodina (Novi Sad) last season, another provincial club, Sarajevo FC, are favourites to win the new championship. Four points behind are Dynamo Zagreb and a rebuilt and far younger Partizan (Belgrade). European Cup finalists last season, Partizan lost their manager, coach and seven regular first-teamers. Knowing the break was coming, the club fielded its reserve team *en bloc* several times last season and the experience appears to have paid off. In their last match before the winter-pause, Partizan hammered NK Zagreb 7-0.

Helping Sarajevo keep the glamour away from Belgrade, Vojvodina surprised everyone with their 3-2 play-off win over Atletico in Madrid, which earned a place in the quarter-finals of the European Cup. Unfortunately they have their problems, too, for top scorer Takac (nine league goals) recently married a French girl and is due to sign for Stade Rennes.

RUSSIA

FOR years the big Moscow clubs held a stranglehold on the Russian championship, and though this tradition was first broken three or four years ago, all the top honours of 1966 went to provincial clubs. Dynamo Kiev romped away with the championship, finishing nine clear points ahead of runners-up ASK Rostov, with Neftianik Bako third, 11 points behind the winners. Moscow then had three clubs together — Spartak, ZDSA and Torpedo, in that order, but Dynamo Kiev clinched a double by beating Torpedo in the Cup Final. Kiev's third major honour came with the Reserves, who also won their championship. Down from Division I go ASK Odessa, who would have been relegated last season but for the decision to extend the top flight to 19 clubs.

In the scorers' race Moscow was again pushed into third place, with the top honour going to Dynamo Tbilissi's Datunachvili (20 goals), followed by Bichevetz (Dynamo Kiev) with 19. Sharing third place, with 15 each, were Kazakov (ZDSA) and Osianin (Spartak). Russian sports writers endorsed Dynamo Kiev's domination by awarding the Footballer of the Year trophy to the champions' captain, Andrei Biba — with Yashin and Chesternev sharing second place.

Football now gives way to ice hockey in the Russian sports scene — until early April — but more than ever before the leading clubs are spending at least part of the winter abroad. The 1968 Olympic squad will play in Holland, Mexico and Cuba (under former national coach Gavril Katschalin), while Dynamo Kiev will play in France, and the Army team, ZDSA, visit England. The plum tour, however, has been won by Dynamo Tbilissi, wintering in South America and due to visit Brazil, Uruguay, Chile and Peru.

Just before Christmas, national coach Nikolai Morosov dropped his bombshell, handing his resignation to the FA after leading Russia to the World Cup semi-finals. His job has now been taken over by Michael Jakuschin (56), ex-coach of Moscow Dynamo, whom he led to six championship successes.

SPAIN

LEADING the field by three clear points, Real Madrid are still unbeaten with more than half the championship programme completed. In second place are the unfashionable Barcelona club, RCD Espanol, and CF Valencia, whose free-scoring centre-forward Waldo leads the scorers' race. Emil Oestereicher, now technical director of Espanol, insists that his young team will be champions within three years — while neighbours CF Barcelona are still struggling to produce their best form consistently, and are said to be seeking yet another coach. The man they are now said to want is former Atletico Madrid stopper, Heriberto Herrera, currently in Italy with Juventus.

Following Atletico's surprising 3-2 defeat against Vojvodina in the European Cup it was expected that coach Otto Gloria would return to Portugal next June when his contract expires. Early in January, Atletico president, Don Vicente Calderon, shook everyone in the capital by announcing that Señor Gloria had re-signed for an extra two-year term. A few days later Atletico also announced they had re-engaged former Betis forward, Miguel Martinez. After only a few weeks with Atletico, Martinez was seriously injured in a friendly match in Montevideo in July, 1964, and has been in a coma ever since.

CF Barcelona are still eager to buy their way to success though they still lack government approval to the big deal they clinched for the disposal of their former home, the Estadio Las Corts. Meanwhile, they appear to have got into difficulties after engaging Brazilian forward, Silva (Flamengo), for £120,000. The Spanish FA refused to accept his registration, leaving Flamengo seeking payment for the transfer and CFB without their star scorer. Now Santos are said to be interested and eager to get CFB off the hook by engaging Silva in a three-cornered deal.

Luis Artime (far right) scores the first of his two goals against Spain last July illustrating what a dangerous goalgetter he can be. (M.P.I.)

MALTA

INSTEAD of the usual International Football Tournament which invariably has been played in Malta during Christmas time, the MFA, faced with the inability to attract a foreign side to Malta because of the very high fees which are being asked for nowadays by foreign sides, organised a Christmas Knock-out Cup called the Muscat Cup, after the name of the donor.

The Muscat Cup which began on Christmas Day was won in its inaugural appearance by Sliema Wanderers, who in the final beat Valletta 2-1.

This win by the Wanderers was considered to be a surprise for they have not been playing as well as they did in the past three years when they captured all the major local football honours. Valletta, on the other hand, who had a more difficult round before they qualified for the final, when they beat the present league leaders, the Hibernians of Pawla, were considered to be the favourites. Sliema for their part disposed of Hamrun Spartans and Gzira United before they reached the final. Hibernians have been one of the revelations of the game on the island this term after many years of striving for success.

The Wanderers, however, in the final, playing with their best available team, rose to the occasion and displayed the true fighting spirit so necessary in Cup Finals. The match was watched by one of the largest crowds of the season and it was a thrilling game. Sliema first scored through international player, Joe Cini, but Valletta equalised. Sliema could have gone ahead when they were awarded a penalty but Cocks, their inside-right, failed to convert the kick.

Wanderers, however, made amends for that lapse and secured the all-important goal through Bonnett later on in the game. Though Valletta made an attempt to draw level they were unsuccessful and thus the Muscat Christmas Cup has become Sliema's for the first time.

In the middle of this month Floriana were due to play two matches in Benghazi. One of the matches was against Hilal, the Benghazi champions. Hilal are now being coached by Janos Bedl, who used to be the trainer of Sliema, the Maltese champions.

The interest which Maltese supporters have for Italian football may be encouraged more from the fact that the last important League encounter between the present League leaders Inter-Milan and Napoli was watched by a party of Maltese Inter supporters who flew specially to Naples to watch this important clash. The Maltese fans met the Inter team and also drove to the stadium with the players. The Italian Press gave prominence to this support and the match, which was watched by 90,000 spectators, ended in a goalless draw.

English Review by Leslie Page

England's Year of Triumph

AFTER such splendid encouragement as the English game received last July, it must sadden football's leaders to see the very rapid passing, this season, of Everton from the European Cup-Winners' Cup and, latterly, Liverpool's dismissal from the European Champions' Cup in a tie which they must surely have expected to win, if not with ease then at a half gallop. The five goals Ajax scored against them in Amsterdam, in fog shrouded circumstances, really put the writing on the wall for the return encounter at Anfield where one would have thought the swaying Kop worth at least two goals.

That just about sums it up. The Kop got two goals and then so did Ajax and Liverpool never really looked like pulling back from the brink of disaster. Bill Shankly must have pondered very considerably over the entire matter as did Harry Catterick when the fates were unkind to Everton. Both are good sides, even if they are not quite so ebullient as they were. On paper, however, it would have been perfectly sound reasoning to expect both to do a great deal better in Europe than in fact they did.

I suppose it is a certain magic that is needed on the Continent when our clubs face the crunch. Manchester United have had it in their day and one expects them to display this quality again in the future. But the general lack of success by our clubs is a difficult thing to pin down, especially when Scottish sides remained in both competitions. Simple enough to say that our teams either have a bad night or are not equal to the opposition, but this does not answer the question satisfactorily. Perhaps we should regard English players as travelling badly like some rare wines and I am honestly of the opinion that any travel which is involved upsets a great many players, although this, of course, cuts both ways.

When considering our chances in the World Cup, our optimism was enhanced to some extent by the successes English League clubs achieved abroad, especially last season. Drawing strength from that fact is one thing, but it apparently had no effect upon either Everton or Liverpool, even when both sides could draw on World Cup performers. Being forced to squeeze games in during mid-week does not help our combinations, for there is little or no time for acclimatisation so necessary in the majority of cases.

If this has just been a bad season in Europe for English clubs, then there is not too much over which we should exhibit anxiety. The failures of Everton and Liverpool, however one tries to gloss over them, struck hard in the country holding the World Cup and leaves our football dangerously open to criticism at a time when there are gangs ready and willing to throw bricks.

Official recognition for England's World Cup victory came in the New Year's Honours List when Alf Ramsey was knighted, Bobby Moore received the OBE, FA secretary Denis Follows added a CBE to his MBE and Kenneth Willson, the chief administrator during the World Cup, was awarded an MBE. If we have had the impression before that soccer was never given a fair deal this is the moment to understand that it has more than achieved its majority. The ring and sound of Sir Alfred Ramsey is very grand indeed and those connected with English football will rejoice in the notice that has been taken of the game and will recall the honest and sincere approach to soccer which has always attended Ramsey's efforts, whether it was for Spurs and England as a player or Ipswich and England as a manager.

Bobby Moore is very much the hero of the hour and he is now as well known as many television personalities, which is saying a great deal these days. Moore presents the perfect late 'sixties image of the sporting type touched by success. He has accepted all that has come his way with grace and affability and honestly felt that he was marked down for the honour as a token of the effort put in by all 22 players in the England squad. It is no bad thing that there should be a modern fairy-tale hero in the game, for it needs a little glamour to help things along.

In some respects, it impresses those responsible for the physical education of the young. The number of stories and actions that do not help football, while they might not be completely eliminated by Moore's decoration, will go some way towards giving the game a respectability that many still do not want to accept. I fear the days when one could go to a football ground and act in an obnoxious manner are on the way out and both official bodies are determined to see hooliganism wiped out.

If football has reached its maximum attendance level (and there are indications that it has) the object must be to see that standards on the field of play as well as on the terraces, are maintained at a high level. The honours for Ramsey and Moore mean, I fear, that these gentlemen will be called upon to give a lead in a great many things. With the Football League about to appoint a public relations officer, it might well be thought wise to promote goodwill at all levels by bringing players and public closer together in one media or the other. Getting to know you, is a phrase that could be put to practical use and if this looks like a dream world, I have little hesitation in suggesting it is no bad dream to have.

The game continued to have its days of warfare on the park and the FA Disciplinary Committee was hard put to keep up with the increasing number of offences of one kind and another. It would be wrong to suppose that the game was dirtier than it was two or three years ago. The simple fact is that referees are clamping down on the slightest sign of violence on official instructions. The two best known players to receive a "sentence" of suspension were Nobby Stiles and Maurice Setters.

Strange

The Stiles personality as all agree from Matt Busby onwards, is a strange one in that Stiles is a mild mannered fellow off the field wearing heavy spectacles and replacing these with contact lenses when playing football. Busby has brought Stiles along right from the time he entered the game and everyone was saying that with a name like Norbert, no one would ever succeed. They were quite wrong, of course, and for a great many Nobby Stiles was the outstanding personality of July, 1966. The gap-toothed Stiles prancing along with the World Cup held aloft makes a picture I will never wish to forget.

Alf Ramsey vigorously defended Stiles during the World Cup finals even when, it is fondly supposed, he had what amounted to official instruction to put him out of the side. Ramsey stuck by Stiles and it cannot be said that the reverse, also, was not true. Stiles is a player who just does not like to lose. He has his instructions and he carries them out to the best of his ability. The well-worn phrase, a 90-minute player, applies very much in Stiles's case and I am sure when he is no longer able to give this kind of effort he will no longer be interested in the game.

His suspension followed a number of incidents which all added up to the Committee believing it was time they took a hand. Nobody defends a player who is a constant threat on the soccer field and those who only see Stiles as an aggressive opponent will be of a mind that luck had been with him previously. For myself, I believe a player acquires a certain type of reputation and the crowd wait for the first instance of bodily contact so they can set up the constant howling that has so often accompanied Stiles away from Old Trafford.

Much the same thing happened to Denis Law a few seasons ago and he, too, was suspended. Law is now, maybe, somewhat cooler than he was then. Stiles will learn as well and one hopes that after missing four vital Manchester United matches he will not feel that he has in some way been victimised.

The commitments of Alf Ramsey in the close season begin to grow and it says something for English pride that challenges are accepted irrespective of the circumstances. It has now been agreed that a side plainly labelled "England" will play Austria on May 27. The very next day, a party will leave to play in Canada under the handle of "An England Eleven" despite the fact that many of the leading players will be taking part in club tours.

It is expected that some players might join the party in Canada, if it is at all possible. The agreement to play Austria is to be applauded no matter what the record books say in the long run. England cannot afford to turn their backs on challengers or potential challengers for, in the words of an old song, the more they are together the happier they will be.

Football League clubs, too, have obligations to fulfil for so many abroad want to see our leading teams and visits go off at half-cock if well-known stars are missing. A compromise has to be fixed and the arrangements at the end of the season should satisfy most critics, apart from those who feel if an England eleven lose, it is tantamount to saying England's World Cup win was a mirage which faded all too quickly. There should be enough good soccermen in the League teams to justify confidence, especially since the Ramsey spell could quite easily work with a changed combination.

The effects of a national economic recession have not made the lot of the Football League clubs any easier. In a great many cases the "squeeze" has severely disturbed directors and managers, and player shedding is a popular pastime with everyone except the player. We are going to get along with a lot less footballers in the months to come than we have been used to. The crunch is now in the Third and Fourth Divisions. Those who have purchased players and intended to pay the transfer fee over a period of months are being reminded by the League of their obligations when defaulters are spotted.

Liverpool's dismissal from Europe must have made them decide that they could only prove they were worthy of high honour if they got back on the Continent again. Shankly's men galvanised into the team they were last season, roared up the Division I table and began to play in assured and majestic style at just the right time. Backs can rarely be turned on the consistent power-house that is Manchester United and in this top-of-the-division complex Chelsea went through a period of extreme misery failing to gather two whole points for weeks on end, although they were presenting a new entertainer extraordinary in Charlie Cooke, who just loved to dribble, even if the finishing, as yet, was not perfect.

Johnny Carey's Nottingham Forest appeared out of a ruck of able clubs to amplify the predictions of those who had always fancied them. Leeds, Spurs, Burnley and Leicester were by no means out of the race and from this array of sterling teams the FA Cup winners could easily emerge. West Ham remained among the most attractive sides in Europe, and Fulham, transferring an old faithful in Graham Leggat and putting their faith in a blend of youth and ultra-experience, pulled away from relegation purgatory much earlier than is their custom.

There is much sympathy for promoted Southampton who struggled to remain with the seniors. Blackpool, with the news that Tony Waiters intended to retire at the end of his current contract; Newcastle, where strife went deep, and Aston Villa, who live with serious problems. From rank outsiders at the start of the campaign, Stoke City continued to humble the mighty, confound the experts and looked a combination always likely to spring not only a surprise win, but, perhaps, the surprise of the season if older legs could propel them to greater glory on pitches thick with mud.

The cut and thrust of Division II gave the section a considerable appeal with Coventry always anxious to prove that publicity is important and backing this with an impressive home record. Wolves, if somewhat static in approach, bared their teeth in their attempts to return to the place where they feel they belong. It was a surprise only to those outside the Den, when Millwall challenged near the top for an impregnable home record, looked less impressive when considered against their away from home performances. Northernmost League side, Carlisle, were also surprise runners, while Crystal Palace, Blackburn, Ipswich and Preston were by no means spent forces.

Queen's Park Rangers, engaged on three fronts, including the semi-finals of the League Cup, could have the section sewn up if other interests do not intervene. Mansfield, Watford, Bristol Rovers and Oldham waited for the slightest sign of complacency.

A man who always seems to be in the headlines in one way or another is Nobby Stiles, temporarily grounded, who has just finished a three weeks' suspension imposed upon him by the FA Disciplinary Committee. (M.P.I.)

Sad and sorry tale of woe

EIRE ROUND-UP by Tom Muldowney

A LOOK now at the plain Janes of the League of Ireland. Clubs down on their luck, for whom nothing goes right; once mighty and magnificent, now buried in the morass of mediocrity.

This sad and sorry tale of woe concerns, of all clubs, Shelbourne. Eire's oldest professional club has fallen on dark and evil days. It seems only yesterday that Shels were on top of the world. Cup conquest and league limelight was the lot of the Ringsend raiders. They challenged for every trophy. Raced fearlessly into Europe. Frightened Sporting Club of Portugal and beat Belenenses.

Under the tutelage of Gerry Doyle, Shelbourne's shock squad of teenage terrors, grew to maturity during the success soaked seasons of the 'sixties. Shels' supporters never had it so good. Then came the morrow. With it the end of the treasure trove. The happy days were gone. Gone, too, was Gerry Doyle and with him his many young men of talent.

The former Shelbourne starmaker is happily ensconced at Richmond Park; where St. Patricks, halo bright and shiny, resplendent in new red-white strip, reach for the sky. Looking upward with Doyle are two of his former tots. The versatile

● Continued on page 43

Exciting Climax to Season

REPORT FROM SOUTH AMERICA

By Gordon Jeffery

THE Brazilian national team squad slipped quietly away from England last July after their early elimination from the 1966 World Cup tournament and the British public as a whole heard no more of them until, a few weeks ago, most of the newspapers featured pictures and/or a story of the fightin' and the feudin' when Bangu and Flamengo were playing each other at Rio's famous Maracana Stadium in what was variously described as the Final of the Brazilian Championship, the Final of the Rio Championship and a play-off for either. It has been a petulant and disappointing League season in Brazil, both in the Rio and the Sao Paulo regions, but it is unfortunate that the only news that gets much publicity in Europe is news of strife.

The Rio League have not been quite sure in what direction they are travelling for some seasons past. As in Argentina, which effectively means in Buenos Aires, there is constant friction between the élite clubs and the minnows. In Argentina, after it had seemed at one time almost certain that the big clubs would form a league of their own, the national league has, in fact, grown from 16 to 20 clubs in a couple of seasons.

In Brazil, on the other hand, five clubs, from a division of only 13, were relegated at the end of the 1964 season and none promoted. Eight clubs alone, meeting each other four times, played out the 1965 season. This season, however, saw four of the excluded five back in the top Rio Division—Canto di Rio were still left outside. But the *full* division of 12 clubs played only the first half the season's fixtures—at which stage each had played the other once. The four clubs then occupying the lowest places were ejected — Campo Grande, Madureira, Sao Cristovao and Portuguesa. The first three named had been among the unwanted last season and the only restored club to benefit was Olaria, who stayed up while Portuguesa dropped out. Portuguesa had only escaped the axe by a single point at the end of the 1964 season and were bottom of the eight-strong division last season, so they had little grounds for complaint.

The first half of the season records of the eight remaining clubs stood in relation to the 11 matches they had played and they were placed thus for the second half of seven matches apiece:

	P	W	D	L	Pts
Flamengo	11	8	3	0	19
Fluminense	11	9	0	2	18
Bangu	11	8	2	1	18
Botafogo	11	6	3	2	15
America	11	6	2	3	14
Vasco da Gama	11	5	2	4	12
Olaria	11	4	1	6	9
Bonsucesso	11	3	3	5	9

The usual end-of-season clash between Flam and Flum looked "on" but, in fact, with that remarkably successful crystal-ball gazing upon which we have remarked before, the compilers fixed the last match between Bangu (champions in 1964 and runners-up in 1965) and Flamengo (fourth in 1964 but champions in 1965). The last four clubs appeared to be already so far behind as to be only left in the race in the hope of paying their way.

The second half commenced with the top four in opposition to the bottom four. Flamengo beat Olaria, Bangu beat Bonsucesso, Botafogo beat America but Fluminense dropped a point against Vasco da Gama to fall two points behind Flamengo and one behind Bangu. Fluminense dropped further behind in their next match when they were beaten (1-0) by Botafogo, who thus drew level with them on the 19-points mark. Flamengo (against Bonsucesso) and Bangu (against Olaria) again took full advantage of playing against bottom-half-of-the-table teams even if Flamengo's victory was by the only goal scored in their match. Flamengo were still dodging the top clubs for the third match—they beat Vasco da Gama to bring their points total to 25 with four matches still to be played. Bangu had stiffer opposition in Botafogo but beat them smoothly and easily (3-0). Fluminense hopped above Botafogo but, as with Flamengo the previous week, their victory over Bonsucesso was only by one goal to nil.

In the fourth round of matches Bangu played America, who had improved with successive wins over Vasco da Gama and Olaria—but these were the last wins they were to chalk up. Good, almost free-scoring, against poor opposition (in the first half of the season America had a notable 7-0 win over Sao Cristovao), America just fail to keep with the top teams and they lost by the odd goal in five to a now rampant Bangu.

Meanwhile Flamengo and Fluminense were meeting in one of their fierce "derby" matches—very much the Rio counterpart of Glasgow's Rangers - Celtic affairs. The first half the season encounter had been won by Flamengo by two goals to nil but Fluminense had reason to feel aggrieved about a defeat that had resulted, indirectly but effectively, from the antics of Almir, Flamengo's and Brazil's problem player.

In the match it appears that Almir took advantage of the referee's back being turned to savagely butt Fluminense's promising back, Oliveira—one of the hopes for Brazilian football. Consternation on the field, but the referee, having seen nothing, could perhaps not be blamed for taking no action. Denilson, one of Brazil's World Cup defenders you may recall, decided to take action himself as the game restarted and chopped Almir down. Denilson was promptly sent off and the Fluminense team turned on the referee. When the dust settled, full-back Bauer had joined Denilson in the dressing-room and Fluminense were left with nine men. Almir remained to help Flamengo to their two-nil win.

No repeat

There was no repeat win in the second meeting, however, and the one-all draw brought Bangu level with Flamengo on 26 points. Three matches to go: Fluminense third with 22 points and Botafogo fourth with 20 points. Bangu had an easy match to come against Vasco da Gama and won easily (3-0) but Flamengo, unhappy in an atmosphere portending a tropical storm, could only draw (1-1) for the second match in succession — this time against Botafogo. Two matches to play and Botafogo were one point in front. They had won their first five matches in the second half when they took on Fluminense and playing with confidence won brilliantly by three goals to one. Flamengo had not given up the chase, however, and nine minutes from time Silva scored the only goal of their match against America.

And so to that publicised Maracana "battle" with Bangu leaders with 30 points and Flamengo second with 29. A draw would have been enough for Bangu but they were in no mood for a defensive display—not with a team that has prospered by the rapid development of attackers like Cabral, Aladin and the fastest player in Brazil, Paulo Borges. They had, too, the memory of their last-minute defeat in the first half of the season meeting to fill themselves with thoughts of revenge.

In this first half of the season match Bangu had suffered their only defeat of the League season when, with the score one-all, and Flamengo down to ten men—Silva had been sent off, Nelsinho had taken a long free-kick towards the Bangu goalmouth. Ubirajara, Bangu's rather slight 'keeper, hesitated a moment and Almir, aforementioned, darted forward and managed, but only desperately, to head the ball. Almir fell in the process. The ball cannoned against the 'keeper, who also stumbled. The ball was between the two players and Almir pushed himself forward on his stomach to propel the ball with his head over the line!

There was no repeat for Almir in the vital second match. There might have been had Flamengo taken advantage of the indecisiveness, almost the nervousness, that seemed to have come over Bangu during the opening phase of the match. Flamengo failed to exploit this advantage and then two incidents at either end of the pitch probably settled the result. At Bangu's end, Flamengo's Silis headed for goal and the Flamengo majority in the reported 143,978 crowd had started to

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cheer in celebration of the opening goal of the match when Ubirajara, with a sudden movement, reached the ball and turned it over the bar.

Only minutes later, Bangu's linkman Ocimar tried a speculative long-range shot that somehow Flamengo's 'keeper, Valdomiro, decided was going wide of the goal. It did not—it opened the scoring for Bangu in the 28th minute. And two minutes later they were two-up with a goal from left-winger Aladin. Flamengo were down and when, early in the second half, they waited for an offside decision that never came, the flying Paulo Borges stormed on to put Bangu three up.

Storm

The storm broke 20 minutes from time. Throughout the match there had been increasingly more vicious duels between the World Cup defender Paulo Henrique and Bangu's centre-forward Ladeira. The referee sought to restore order—in the process sending off five Flamengo and four Bangu players — but eventually the match was abandoned. The blame stuck more to Flamengo and probably few Brazilian administrators relished the thought of a second match. The result (3-0 for Bangu) stood and Bangu were champions—deservedly so with victories over all seven of the other top Rio clubs in the second half of the season during which Bangu scored 22 goals (three goals in each of six matches and four against Bonsucesso) and conceded only four. Final positions:

	P	W	D	L	Pts
Bangu	18	15	2	1	32
Flamengo	18	12	5	1	29
Fluminense	18	12	2	4	26
Botafogo	18	9	5	4	23
Vasco da Gama	18	8	3	7	19
America	18	8	2	8	18
Olaria	18	5	2	11	12
Bonsucesso	18	4	3	11	11

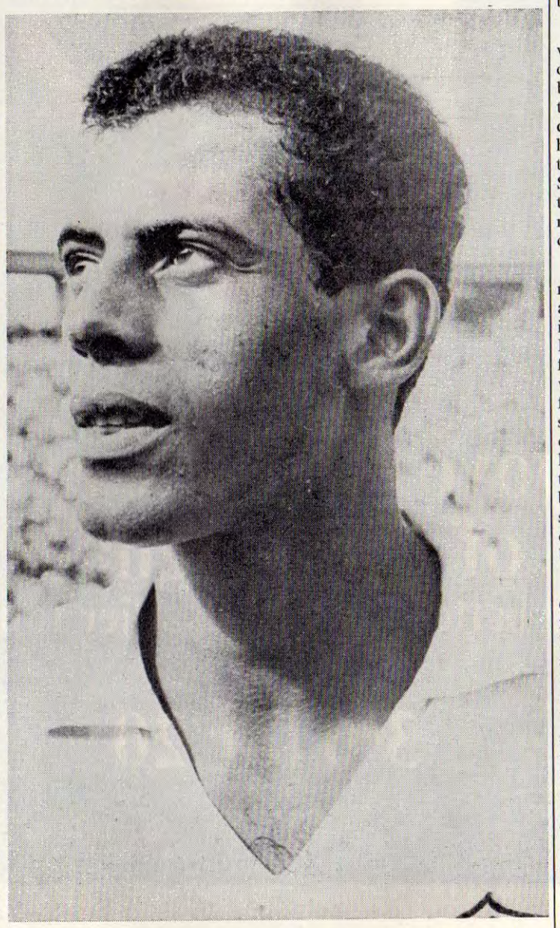
All in all, 1966 was not a good year for Brazilian football but in the long run the partial eclipse of Santos FC (Pelé FC as it is sometimes called) in the Sao Paulo league and in the Brazilian Cup may be more for the good than was first thought—more about this next month, however, because in the space remaining I would like to note the return of Colombia to the world football field.

FIFA come in for much adverse criticism when things go wrong—or appear to have gone wrong. Their successes are less often mentioned but since the split in Colombia, FIFA have been working patiently towards a solution of the problems. It was early in January, 1966, that FIFA decided to send an arbitration delegation to Colombia "to examine and investigate the situation on the spot and to hear the Colombian parties concerned".

The parties concerned were the actual member of FIFA, the "Asociacion Colombiana de Futbol" (short reference: ADEFUTBOL) and the splinter group, the "Federacion del Futbol Colombiano" (short reference FEDEBOL). Both bodies agreed to accept the arbitratorship of the FIFA delegation but during their visit to Colombia in March 1966 the FIFA delegation were unable to bring the two together in reconciliation.

However, they did gain knowledge about the disputes and in July, during the World Cup, delegates from the two Colombian groups were brought together in London and an agreement signed by which a provisional Colombian Committee of FIFA was set up. This body met for the first time last September—in Cali in Colombia. It will continue to represent Colombian football until a new national football body is formed but meantime international relations with other football bodies have been restored—and Colombia's national team has taken the field for a couple of matches against Chile.

Chile, with several World Cup players on duty but with some newcomers, won in Santiago but drew (0-0) the return in Colombia.



Carlos Alberto, the well-known Santos right-back, whose club is currently undergoing a very lean period. (M.P.2.)

EIRE ROUND-UP

—from p. 41

Dowling and international Jackie Hennessy, recently returned from his short sojourn as a full-time professional with Derry City in the Irish League.

Also away are Heavy, O'Brien, Bonham, Hannigan to league leaders Dundalk, after a spell with Wrexham, Eric Barber to Birmingham City with whom he was capped by the Irish selectors, and the most recent departure, Joe Haverty, off to try his luck with Chicago Spurs in the new American League. A move that looks like ending the international career of the wee winger who won 32 caps since he first left the League of Ireland for fame and fortune with Arsenal back in 1954.

The loss of Shelbourne Park was a bad blow. Not only to the old folk who loved the ground, but to the game in general. With typical courage the Shelbourne directors set about making a new home. If ever anything deserved to succeed it was the Irishtown Stadium. Money was poured into the site. Nothing was spared to make this a ground fit for the oldest pro club in the country.

It was all in vain. The project never reached fruition and was abandoned. Today this great club is homeless. They share Tolka Park with landlords Drumcondra for home games, and train elsewhere. Their plight is a blot on football. A shame on the city it served so well. Football folk everywhere, especially those with long memories, sympathise with this grand old club. Fate has been more than unkind. The smile of Dame Fortune is long overdue. When it comes it will be more than welcome.

Hope for the future, it springs eternally, lies at the feet of old faithfuls, Paddy Roberts and International Freddie Strahan and a bevy of youngsters including Tommy Foran, Tom Hamill, Garvan, Shiels and Rowan. These boys have strength and speed. They run about for the entire 90 minutes giving their all to return "Reds" to the front rank. Ability is theirs. All they need is time. Time to mature. Time to gain the experience, without which no team can hope to succeed. Unfortunately for them and manager McKenzie, time, in these days of fickle fans, is the one thing Shelbourne have not got.

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